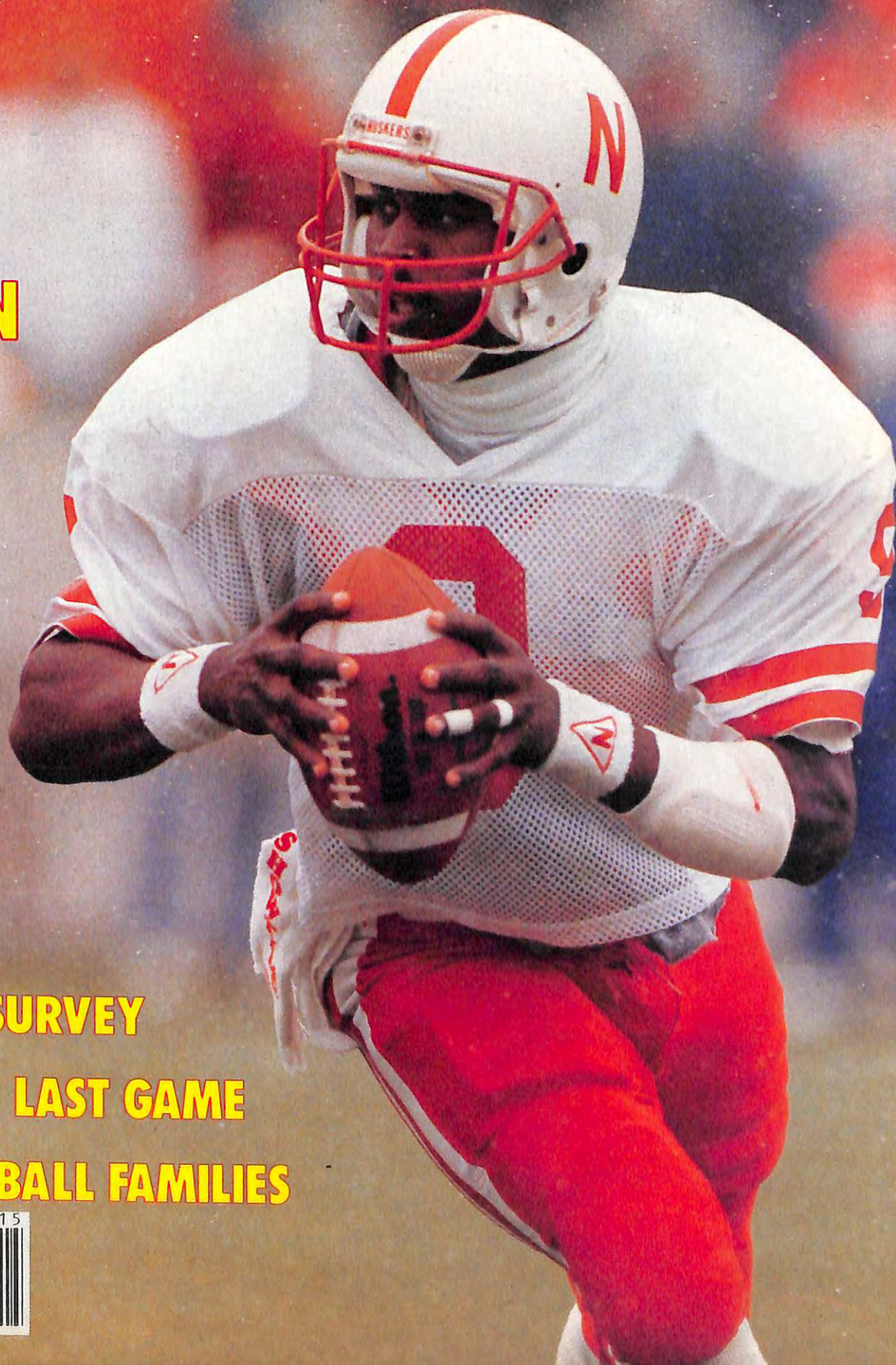


Huskers Illustrated

November 12, 1988 ■ \$2.75

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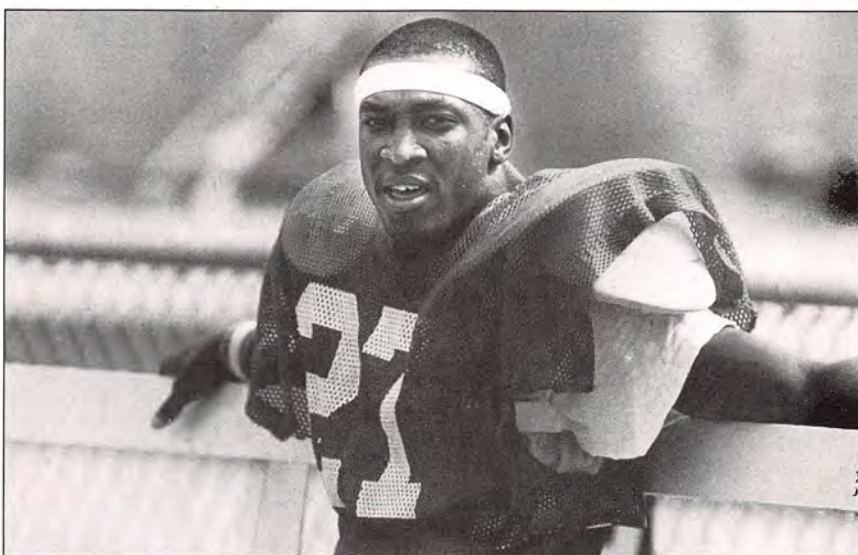
Archie Unruh

Archie Unruh

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PUBLISHER:

Mike Henry

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Charles Brackin

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR:

Melania C. Ross

EDITOR:

Mark Owens

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Mike Babcock,
Don Bryant, Bill Callahan, James Hale,
Ken Hambleton, Rod Henkel, Don Lee,
Virgil Parker, Chuck Pool, Pat Quinn.

CORRESPONDENTS:

Kevin Henry, Brad Wagner

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:

John Bills, Kent Morgan Olsen

ART DIRECTOR:

Tim Stephens

PRODUCTION:

Dana Hervey, Dina Dunn

CONTROLLER:

David Brandenburg

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR:

M.E. Johnson

MARKETING DIRECTOR:

Larry McWain

CIRCULATION:

Catherine Wheeler, Mary Janus

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Debbie Gahm

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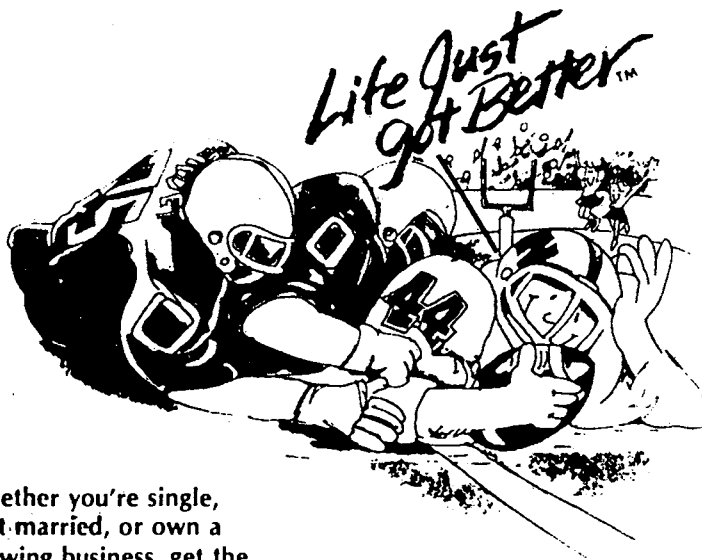
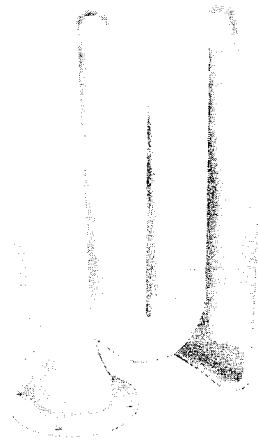
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TELEVISION TURMOIL

Dear Huskers:

What happened to the Nebraska-Oklahoma State game? Why wasn't it shown on television? It's almost impossible to get tickets for the games, not to mention having to make the trip to Lincoln. It seemed like the Oklahoma State game would be a natural for TV.

What's the deal?

Neal Whitmore

North Platte, Neb.

Dear Huskers:

As a long-time fan of the Big Red, I was really disappointed when I read in the newspapers that Martin Massengale refused to move the kickoff of the Oklahoma State game so it could be on TV. A lot of us are angry.

As it turned out, Massengale did Oklahoma State a favor by keeping the game off TV. The Huskers proved again their dominance of the Cowboys.

Go Big Red.

Drake Armstrong
Binghamton, N.Y.

Dear Huskers:

Does Massengale think the University can afford to lose \$100,000 just so he can attend a ball in Omaha?

Roscoe Bates
Omaha, Neb.

Editor's Note: Chancellor Massengale pointed out that the kickoff of the Nebraska-Oklahoma State game could not be moved to the early evening because of a series of Homecoming events, planned well in advance.

The unfortunate thing was, Notre Dame played Miami that afternoon, too. Otherwise, the Nebraska-Oklahoma State game would have been a logical choice for the CBS college football game of the week. In addition, ESPN apparently had a commitment to televise the Duke-Clemson game in the late afternoon, leaving Nebraska no choice but to move the kickoff or not be on television.

Nebraska and Oklahoma State each lost approximately \$120,000 by not being on. So, obviously, it wasn't an easy decision for the chancellor to make.

SCHEDULE SWITCH

Dear Huskers:

As I recall, the Huskers were supposed to play Texas or Arkansas pretty soon. But as I looked at future schedules, I didn't see either team. Also, what happened to Tulane? Weren't we going to play them at one time?

John Fowler
Scottsbluff, Neb.

Dear Huskers:

Let's get teams like UNLV off the schedule and play somebody like Iowa. A game with Wyoming might be good, too.

Marshall Borg
Sterling, Colo.

Dear Huskers:

I looked at next year's schedule and

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noticed the Huskers are supposed to play Northern Illinois. Isn't that where Jerry Pettibone went? Is he still the coach there?

I think with the 1989 schedule and several very good players coming back, Nebraska will win the national championship and Ken Clark will win the Heisman if he stays healthy.

I'm happy to see Clark is doing so well. Was he a running back or a defensive back in high school?

Eric Sloan
Huntsville, Ala.

Editor's note: First, about Nebraska's schedules. The Cornhuskers originally had home-and-home series with Arkansas and Tulane, and they were supposed to open the 1991 season against Texas in Austin, Tex. The non-conference portion of that 1991 schedule looked like this: Texas in Austin, Arkansas in Lincoln, Washington in Lincoln, Arizona State in Tempe. Texas has since been replaced by Utah State, and instead of Arkansas, Nebraska will play Colorado State. Both games will be in Lincoln.

Coach Tom Osborne said he asked to get out of the Texas game. Arkansas and Tulane, which was replaced by Northern Illinois on the schedule, both asked to be let out of their contracts.

Tulane "dropped us when Mack Brown became the coach," says Osborne. "He called up and didn't want to play us. It seems like when you get a new coach, the guy starts looking at the schedule and tries to build in some wins."

Yes, Jerry Pettibone is still the head coach at Northern Illinois.

Ken Clark played some defensive back for Omaha Bryan High School, but he was recruited by Nebraska as an I-back.

HAPPY ABOUT HOOPS

Dear Huskers:

Since I am a big basketball fan, I enjoy reading the "Husker Hoops" section each week. I saw where Nebraska is picked to finish seventh in the Big Eight this season, but I think they're wrong. Danny Nee will lead the Huskers to a first division finish, and Eric Johnson will be all-conference.

Ohio's loss was our gain. Keep up the

good work.
Bobby Schneider
Mobile, Ala.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

Dear Huskers:

Where is Chris Spachman? Is he still playing professional football?

Mary Teter
Falls City, Neb.

Mary: The last we knew, Chris was on the injured reserve list of the Phoenix Cardinals. The "Confidentially" section in the Oct. 8 issue has a note about Spachman.

We want to hear your comments and answer your questions. Address them to "Letters," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. ■



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Casting Their Ballots

A SURVEY OF NEBRASKA PLAYERS REVEALS
THE '88 HUSKERS ARE JUST REGULAR GUYS.

They finally agreed.

Nebraska football players are a diverse lot, and they gave many different answers when they were asked questions in the *Huskers Illustrated* player survey. It was tough, for example, to choose a single teammate as the hardest worker in practice. The top players on the 1988 Cornhusker football team were polled, and they came up with 14 answers for the "hardest worker" question. When it came to predicting which current Husker is most likely to become a football coach, 15 players were listed. On the lighter side, 11 Huskers were named as "most likely to fall asleep in a team meeting."

However, some questions evoked almost total agreement.

Senior linebacker Broderick Thomas was chosen by his teammates as the Husker most likely to make it in the NFL. Fullback Sam Schmidt, injured and out for the season, still was an overwhelming choice as the hardest worker in the weight room. Schmidt was also the hands-down pick as the player who eats the healthiest food.

Personality and character peek through the survey answers. Pete Buchanan was given the nod as the toughest walkon. He nipped Mark Hagge. Todd Millikan was picked as the best impersonator (of whales, bats and nerds).

Curtis Cotton has the lowest voice. Mickey Joseph the highest. Willie Griffin won as the most happy-go-lucky. John Nelson took honors as the most serious. Tim Jackson dominated the "best dressed" category, and Mark Blazek was a solid choice by his teammates to enter and succeed in the political arena.

LeRoy Etienne was a runaway choice for the player who sang the most, even though he got only one vote for the player who sang the best. When asked who they would most like their son to grow up like, players picked Randall Jobman. The Huskers faced tough choices; Willie Griffin, Ken Clark and Mike Croel finished in a dead heat after teammates voted on who was most likely to fall asleep in a team meeting. One player voted for Dana Brinson as the most happy-go-lucky. Another picked Brinson as the Husker with the most serious outlook on life.

All in all, the players on Tom Osborne's 16th Cornhusker team simply agreed to disagree.

Who is the hardest worker in practice?

1. Andy Keeler and Jake Young
2. Sam Schmidt

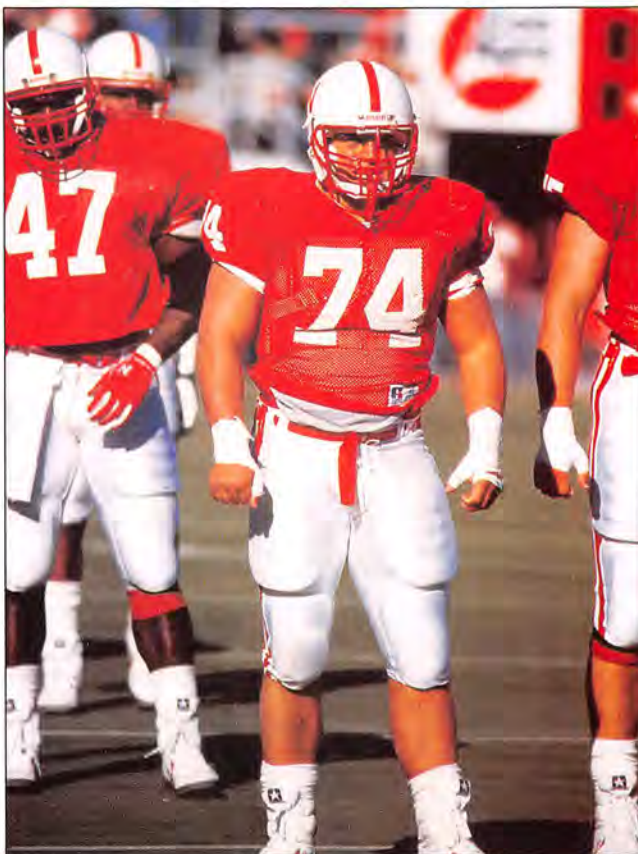
Others getting votes were Joe D'Alesio, Mark Blazek, Dana Brinson, LeRoy Etienne, Mark Hagge, Paul Brungardt, Kent Wells, Jim Wanek, Terry Rodgers, Ray Valladao, the secondary and the kickers.

Who is the hardest worker in the weight room?

1. Sam Schmidt
2. Kent Wells and Pete Buchanan

Others getting votes were Andy Keeler, Dana Brinson, Jim Wanek, Ray Valladao, Terry Rodgers and any kicker.

Who is most like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde — mean on the field but a nice



Mike Murray (74) is wide awake on game day, but teammates agree he loves to sleep.

guy off the field?

1. Broderick Thomas
2. Andy Keeler, Bob Sledge, Doug Glaser, Willie Griffin and Mark Hagge.

Others getting votes were Mike Murray, Randall Jobman, Pat Tyrance, Mike Croel and any kicker.

Who is the biggest eater at the training table?

1. Sam Schmidt
2. Kent Wells
3. Kenny Walker

Others getting votes were Jake Young, Andy Keeler, Doug Glaser, Ray Valladao, Brad Ferguson, Doug Wadell, Bob Sledge, Lance Lewis and Willie Griffin.

Who talks the most about food?

1. Willie Griffin
2. Sam Schmidt
3. Kent Wells and Bob Sledge

Others getting votes were Lance Lewis, Kurt Broer, Andy Keeler, Ray Valladao and Brad Ferguson.

Who tells the best jokes?

1. Mark Antonietti
2. Willie Griffin and Todd Millikan
3. Mike Croel

Others getting votes were Brad Ferguson, Mark Hagge, Andy Keeler, Joe Sims and Chris Caliendo.

Who does the best impersonations?

Of whom?

1. Todd Millikan (bats, whales and nerds)

2. Marvin Sanders (Lorenzo Hicks' walk), Willie Griffin and Mark Antonietti (of Coach Dan Young)

Others getting votes were Mike Murray (he sings), Broderick Thomas (of Tom Osborne and Tony Samuel), Lawrence Pete (of Dan Young) and Morgan Gregory (of Tom Osborne and John Melton).

Who sings the best?

1. Andy Keeler
2. Todd Millikan

Others getting votes were Lance Lewis, Terry Rodgers, LeRoy Etienne, Mark Hagge, Brad Ferguson and Dave Edeal.

Who sings the most (but not necessarily the best)?

1. LeRoy Etienne
2. Andy Keeler
3. Marvin Sanders

Others getting votes were Lawrence Pete, Joe Sims, Steve Taylor, Charles Fryar, Cartier Walker, Willie Griffin

QB Mickey Joseph gets the nod as the Husker who looks youngest for his age.



and Brad Ferguson.

Who is the sharpest dresser?

1. Tim Jackson
2. Tim McCoy

Others getting votes were Chris Caliendo, Gerry Gdowski, Steve Taylor, Bill Settles, Lorenzo Hicks, Dana Brinson, Kurt Hasley, Andy Keeler, Brad Ferguson and Mark Antonietti.

Who talks the most about school work?

1. Mark Blazek and John Nelson
2. Jake Young

Others getting votes were Mike Murray, Monte Kratzenstein, Brad Ferguson, Tim McCoy and Mark Antonietti.

Who sleeps the most?

1. Mike Murray
2. Curtis Cotton, Tyreese Knox and Jake Young

Others getting votes were Rob Leuck, Tahaun Lewis, Todd Millikan, Mike Croel, Brad Ferguson, Chip Bahe, Doug Glaser, Charles Fryar and Jeff Anderson.

Who is the best NFL prospect?

1. Broderick Thomas
2. Randall Jobman, Tim Jackson and Mark Antonietti.

Who would have the best chance of making it big in another sport?

1. Kenny Walker
2. Kent Wells (in professional wrestling and track) and Steve Taylor
3. Reggie Cooper

Others getting votes were Broderick Thomas, Lorenzo Hicks, Andy Keeler (golf and bowling), Brad Ferguson, Mark Hagge (high hurdles), and Wendell Wooten.

Who is most likely to become a football coach?

1. Scott Vampola, Brian Miller and Steve Stanard

Others getting votes were Andy Keeler, Lance Lewis, Marvin Sanders, Jim Wanek, Mark Hagge, Scott Olson, Mark Antonietti, Mark Blazek, Kent Wells and Chip Bahe.

Who likes to talk Xs and Os the



**Andy Keeler
reigns as
Nebraska's
1988 card
shark.**

most?

1. Jake Young
2. Marvin Sanders

Others getting votes were Mike Croel, Dave Edeal, Kent Wells, Chip Bahe, Bob Sledge, Kurt Broer, the offensive line.

Who would you like your son to grow up like?

1. Randall Jobman
2. Mark Blazek and Bob Sledge

Others getting votes were John Nelson, Bryan Carpenter, Ray Valladao, Richard Bell, Kenny Walker, Jeff Anderson, Todd Millikan, Willie Griffin, Doug Glaser, Jim Wanek, Kent Wells, Gerry Gdowski and Jeff Mills.

Who is the best dancer?

1. Willie Griffin
2. Dana Brinson
3. Mark Hagge

Others getting votes were John Roschal, Marvin Sanders, Lorenzo Hicks, Todd Millikan, Mike Murray and Mickey Joseph.

Who of the walkons is the toughest?

1. Pete Buchanan
2. Mark Hagge
3. Tim Johnk

Others getting votes were Brian Miller, Jeff Anderson, Mike Murray, Brad Ferguson and Steve Engstrom.

Who is the most mature freshman?

1. Lance Lewis
 2. Tyrone Leggett
- No one else got votes.

Who spends the most time fixing his hair?

1. Tim Jackson and Chris Caliendo
2. Sam Schmidt
3. Kent Wells

Others getting votes were Mike Croel, Broderick Thomas, Jake Young, Brad Devall and Brad Ferguson.

Who asks the most questions during team meetings?

1. Chris Caliendo
2. Mike Croel and Tim Jackson

Others getting votes were Ken Clark, Le Andre Anderson, Marvin Sanders, Bob Sledge, Bill Bobbora, Justin Krantz, Dana Brinson, Jamie Worden,

Richard Bell, Kurt Broer and Jake Young.

Who is the most happy-go-lucky?

1. Willie Griffin
2. Mark Hagge
3. Mike Croel

Others getting votes were Mickey Joseph, Lance Lewis, Mark Antonietti, Andy Keeler, Dana Brinson, Brad Ferguson, Randall Jobman and Todd Millikan.

Who has the most serious outlook on life?

1. John Nelson
2. Mark Blazek and Jake Young

Others getting votes were Brad Ferguson, Brian Miller, Brian Harchelroad, Dana Brinson and Dave Edeal.

Who is the best host with prospective recruits?

1. Kent Wells
2. Steve Taylor
3. Ray Valladao and Jake Young

Others getting votes were Bill Bobbora, Doug Glaser, Broderick Thomas, Charles Fryar and Mark Antonietti.

Who has the best nickname? What is it?

1. Randall Jobman (Cowboy)
2. Mike Murray (Passie), Kent Wells (Dr. Forehead) plus Bob Sledge and Andy Keeler (Pig)

Others getting votes were Chris Caliendo (Twinkie), Todd Millikan (Pig Pen), Doug Glaser (The Glacier), Dan Svehla (Chief), Lorenzo Hicks (K.C. Ace), Marvin Sanders (Torpedo) and Lance Lewis (Lumpy).

Who is the most likely to enter politics?

1. Mark Blazek
2. Jake Young and Chris Caliendo

Others getting votes were LeRoy Etienne, Jon Marco, Tim McCoy, Chip Bahe, Mark Antonietti and Brian Harchelroad.

Which two players would make the best presidential running mates? President? Vice President?

1. Willie Griffin-Tyrese Knox
2. Andy Keeler-Bob Sledge

Others getting votes were Jake Young-Mike Murray, Broderick Thomas-Steve Taylor, Mark Hagge-Kent Wells, Tim Jackson-Richard Bell, Bob Sledge-Andy Keeler, Jake Young-Gerry Gdowski, Tim McCoy-Chip Bahe, Jon Marco-Mark Hagge, Kent Wells-Ray Valladao

and Broderick Thomas-Cartier Walker.

Who reads the sports pages or watches sports on TV the most?

1. Andy Keeler
2. Wendell Wooten
3. Monte Kratzenstein and Chip Bahe

Others getting votes were Brian Miller, Mark Antonietti, Charles Fryar and Morgan Gregory.

Who is the most likely to fall asleep in a team meeting?

1. Willie Griffin, Jake Young and Mike Croel.

2. Ken Clark

Others getting votes were Tyreese Knox, Charles Fryar, Brad Ferguson, Corey Grobe, Jon Marco, Dana Brinson, Terry Eyman and any kicker.

Who cuts up the most on the team plane or bus?

1. Willie Griffin and Marvin Sanders

Others getting votes were Broderick Thomas, Bill Bobbora, Steve Stanard, Charles Fryar, Todd Millikan, Mark Antonietti, Kent Wells and Lawrence Pete.

Who is slick enough to talk his way out of a speeding ticket?

1. Broderick Thomas
2. Rob Leuck
3. Chris Caliendo, Mark Hagge and Mark Antonietti

Others getting votes were Sam Schmidt, Mickey Joseph, Dana Brinson and Jeff Mills.

Who eats the healthiest food?

1. Sam Schmidt
2. Pete Buchanan
3. Ray Valladao

Others getting votes were Brad Ferguson and Kent Wells.

Who looks the oldest for his age?

1. Junior Monarrez and Jake Young
2. Scott Beckler

Others getting votes were Mike Murray, Roger Fitzke, Andy Keeler, Willie Griffin, Bruce Pickens, Kent Wells, Ray Coleman, Mark Hagge and Tom Punt.

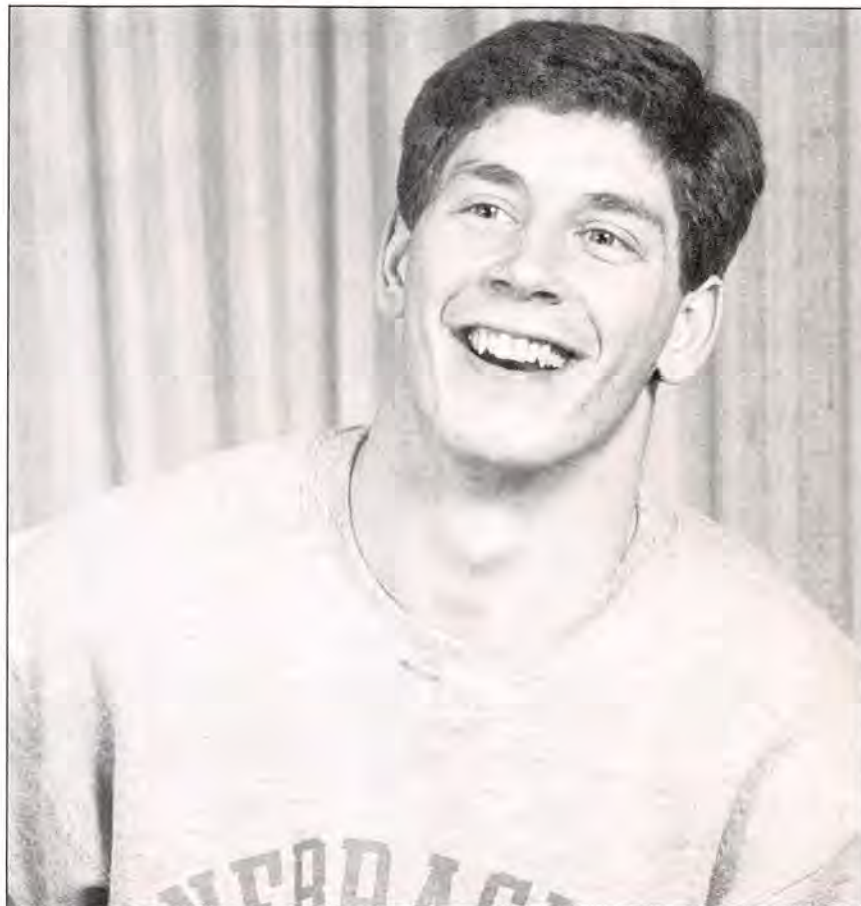
Who looks the youngest for his age?

1. Mickey Joseph
2. Tahaun Lewis
3. Chip Bahe

Others getting votes were Brad Ferguson, Terry Rodgers, Todd Millikan, Jake Young and Brian Miller.

Who has the deepest voice?

1. Curtis Cotton
2. Kent Wells



Mark Blazek was voted by teammates as most likely to enter politics.

Others getting votes were Brian Miller, Reggie Cooper and Joe D'Alesio.

Who has the highest voice?

1. Mickey Joseph
2. Chris Caliendo and Steve Taylor

Others getting votes were Cartier Walker, Mike Murray, Tahaun Lewis, John Richmond, Jake Young, Gregg Barrios, Kevin Miller, and any defensive back.

Who is the best card player?

1. Andy Keeler
2. Marvin Sanders

Others getting votes were Rob Leuck, Scott Vampola, Bob Sledge, Paul Brungardt, Charles Fryar and any kicker.

Who is the most nervous before a game?

1. Jake Young
2. Paul Brungardt

Others getting votes were Mark Blazek, Corey Grobe, Mark Hagge, Jeff Mills, Tahaun Lewis, Lance Lewis, Kent Wells, Brad Ferguson, Bill Bobbora and the whole team.

Who is the calmest before a game?

1. Steve Taylor
2. Broderick Thomas

Others getting votes were Mark Hagge, Charles Fryar, Mike Croel, Tim Jackson, Mark Antonietti, Mark Blazek, Jon Marco, Mike Murray, Bryan Carpenter, the offensive line, and any kicker.

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Jeff Jamrog, Nebraska graduate assistant coach and 1987 Academic All-American, who helped coordinate this survey. ■

Sooners Favored in Big Eight

The Big Eight made history in 1971 when Nebraska, Oklahoma and Colorado were ranked No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 by the Associated Press in football. Yes, it was a big deal, but then again everyone knew the Big Eight was a football conference.

What happened last year in the Big Eight might have been more amazing. Playing for a national championship were Kansas and Oklahoma. Kansas State, Iowa State and Missouri were also invited to the NCAA party. And no conference could come close to the individual talent of seniors Danny Manning, Mitch Richmond, Jeff Grayer, Harvey Grant and Derrick Chievous. The Big Eight was arguably the best in the land.

"What we've got to do now is just go from there," said Billy Tubbs of the defending league champion Sooners. "There are some outstanding young players coming up. The league is going to be excellent once again."

Nebraska's Danny Nee is trying to push his program into the lofty section of the league.

"When I go out and recruit, I make sure the player knows just how good the Big Eight is," said Nee. "It has become a big plus. I think people finally found out just how good Big Eight basketball is."

And Oklahoma State's Leonard Hamilton agrees.

"Oklahoma and Missouri might be as good as anyone in the country this year," said Hamilton. "Kansas is a lot better than people think they are. They have all of those high school All-Americans. I like Nebraska. They have really recruited well the last couple of years. And Kansas State has some outstanding players and will be right in the thick of things."

That's from some of the Big Eight coaches. Let's hear from the TV guru of college basketball — Dick Vitale.

"There's no way the Big Eight can be as good as it was last year," Vitale said recently. "It lost a great senior class. The difference between the Big Eight and leagues such as the Big East is that



Dick Vitale says the Big Eight will probably drop off in 1988-89.

other conferences lose great players and then replace them the next year with the same caliber of players."

Here's how Vitale looks at the Big Eight race with his comments on each team.

1. Oklahoma: "You have to go with the Sooners. They're going to be bad, real bad, baby. They've got great talent. Stacey King is the best center in the country. I know that might get followers of J.R. Reid and Purvis Ellison mad. King should have made the Olympic Team. And Mookie Blaylock is one of the best guards in the country. I've talked to Billy Tubbs, and he says Damon Patterson may be as good as any-

one. They're loaded. They're a Final Four candidate this year. Billy Tubbs has done an unbelievable job with this program."

2. Missouri: "You have to go with them behind Oklahoma. How good they'll be, I don't know. But they have a chance to be a great team because they have so much talent. Last year they had some problems and never developed any chemistry. They have great athletes like Doug Smith, Nate Buntin and Bryon Irvin. And then they are bringing in a great high school player in Anthony Peeler. He can flat-out play."

3. Oklahoma State: "Leonard Hamilton is a great recruiter. Richard Dumas was one of the top freshmen in the country last year. They have the talent to play with a lot of people. The question now is to find out whether they can win on a big-time level. They certainly have outstanding athletes."

4. Kansas State: "They'll really miss Mitch Richmond. He was a great player. They can't replace him. Lon Kruger is a good coach. They've done a good job of getting players from the juco ranks. They'll have a nice team and will be in the hunt for an NCAA bid."

5. Kansas: "The Jayhawks are making a tremendous transition. They lost too much ammunition. Roy Williams should be a good coach. He learned a lot sitting on the sidelines with Dean Smith. But you have to have the personnel, and he doesn't have it. I don't think Kansas will be a factor in the Big Eight. I think they'll be mediocre at the very best."

6. Nebraska: "I like Danny Nee. He's moving that program toward the others in the conference. He's a tough, New York guy. He's a motivator who knows what it takes to get the job done. Rich King is a talented big man. It'll take a couple of years, but Danny Nee is going to make 'em happy in Lincoln."

7. Iowa State: "Johnny Orr has done a great job with the program there. But they lost too much in Jeff Grayer and Lafester Rhodes to compete with the other teams in the league. This is strictly a rebuilding year for Iowa State."

8. Colorado: "This program has some problems. It just isn't competitive with the other schools in the league. They just don't have the talent. They've had problems recruiting the outstanding players."

That's Dick Vitale talking about the Big Eight. Let's look at it a little more closely. A Big Eight media poll predicted the race in the following order: 1, Oklahoma; 2, Missouri; 3, Kansas State; 4, Oklahoma State; 5, Kansas; 6, Iowa State; 7, Nebraska; and 8, Colorado.

OKLAHOMA

When you talk about the Sooners, you begin with All-American candidates Stacey King (6-foot-10) and Mookie Blaylock (6-1). They are dominant players at their positions. The other starting jobs are up for grabs. Tyrone Jones (6-5), a former juco All-American, has looked outstanding in practice and may start at the big guard. He's competing against sophomore Terrence Mullins. Damon Patterson (6-7) and Skeeter Henry (6-7) will play somewhere. A key will be at the big forward where Tony Martin (6-8), Andre Wylie (6-6), William Davis (6-5) and Michael Bell (6-7) are the leaders. The Sooners are coming off a record setting 35-4 season.

MISSOURI

The Tigers have as much talent as anyone. They have four of five starters back, with Derrick Chievous the only graduation casualty. They're loaded up front with the likes of Doug Smith (6-10), Nate Buntin (6-9), Gary Leonard (7-1) and Greg Church (6-8). Byron Irvin, a 6-5 guard, who averaged 12.9 points a game, is back at the big guard. Lee Coward (6-1) returns at the point. He averaged 11 points a game. And replacing Chievous will be freshman Anthony Peeler (6-5), a prep All-American.

KANSAS STATE

The Wildcats finished with a 25-9 mark last year. But they were hit hard by graduation. The ringleader will be guard Steve Henson (6-1), who averaged 9.1 points and 5.5 assists a game. They will not be big at center, where Fred McCoy (6-7) holds down that spot. Just

how far K-State goes this year may depend on the rapid development of junior college transfers Reggie Britt (6-6) and Billy Ray Smith (6-5) at forward and LaKeith Humphrey (6-1) at guard.

OKLAHOMA STATE

The Cowboys are loaded with high school All-Americans Richard Dumas (6-7), Johnny Pittman (7-0) and Thomas Jordan (6-10). Dumas was second in voting for Big Eight Newcomer of the Year behind Mookie Blaylock after averaging 17.4 points and 6.4 rebounds a game last year. Pittman and Jordan were Proposition 48 casualties. Freshman Bryon Houston (6-6) is ready to start.

A lot of folks think the Huskers will be the sleeper in the Big Eight. A key will be the development of Rich King (7-2) at center.

Fellow freshman Darwyn Alexander and juco transfer Von McDade could head up the backcourt.

KANSAS

The defending national champions will have a rebuilding job, but they have as many high school All-Americans as any team in the league. Key players this year will be guard Kevin Pritchard (6-3) and forwards Mark Randle (6-8) and Mike Maddox (6-8). The top player back is made of All-Big Eight material. Milt Newton (6-5) averaged 11.6 points and 5.0 rebounds a game last year. The main problem may be at center, where Sean Alvarado (6-9) appears to be the best.

IOWA STATE

The Cyclones are going to have a big

problem in trying to replace Lafester Rhodes and Jeff Grayer. They were the big reasons I-State went 20-12 last year. The main weakness might be at center, where Victor Alexander (6-9) must come through. The top scorer coming back is forward Elmer Robinson (6-5), who averaged 11 points and five rebounds a game. Terry Woods (5-8) is small but talented at the point guard. He had 169 assists last year. It will be tough for the Cyclones to finish in the first division.

NEBRASKA

A lot of folks think the Huskers will be the sleeper in the Big Eight. A key will be the development of Rich King (7-2) at center. He's played well in the preseason. King averaged 4.7 points and 2.9 rebounds as a freshman last year in a 13-18 campaign. Pete Manning (6-8) is the leading returning scorer with a 9.0 reading. Beau Reid (6-7) averaged 8.8 points. Leading the way in the backcourt will be Eric Johnson (6-2). Big things are expected from big-time recruit Dapreis Owens (6-9). The Huskers will be helped with 17 home games.

COLORADO

There isn't much help on the way for this program. The Buffs finished 3-11 in the Big Eight and 7-21 overall. There shouldn't be much improvement. The Buffs' best player, Scott Wilke (21.5 pts and 8.4 rebs), graduated. The best of the pack is Brian Robinson (6-5). He averaged 9.7 points and 5.3 rebounds. A center might be hard to find. The job will go to either redshirt freshman Bill Markham or juco transfer Shaun Vandiver (6-10).

Let's see how some of the other magazines have ranked the upcoming Big Eight Conference race.

Dick Vitale Magazine: 1, Oklahoma; 2, Missouri; 3, Kansas State; 4, Oklahoma State; 5, Kansas and Nebraska; 7, Iowa State; and 8, Colorado.

The Sporting News: 1, Oklahoma; 2, Missouri; 3, Oklahoma State; 4, Kansas State; 5, Kansas; 6, Nebraska; 7, Colorado; and 8, Iowa State.

Street and Smith: 1, Oklahoma; 2, Missouri; 3, Kansas; 4, Kansas State; 5, Oklahoma State; 6, Iowa State; 7, Nebraska; and 8, Colorado. ■

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Rod Henkel

Two Options Left

NEBRASKA CRUSHED IOWA STATE, LEAVING ONLY THE WISHBONING BUFFS AND SOONERS IN THE WAY OF AN ORANGE BOWL BERTH.

AMES, Iowa — Iowa State paid dearly in its 51-16 loss to Nebraska.

The Cyclones paid for their deficit of scholarship players, a fact ISU coach Jim Walden emphasized last week to the point of overbearance.

Nebraska made Iowa State pay for being next on the Huskers' schedule after Missouri by taking out offensive frustrations on the Iowa hosts.

On the other side of the football, Iowa State paid for meeting Nebraska late in the season after the Black Shirts had molded into a stingy defense.

Even Mother Nature, giving her first hints of upcoming Midwest weather, took away any advantage the Cyclones had in hosting the Huskers.

"Nebraska is a very good team and we aren't as good as they are," said Walden, whose Cyclones slipped to 2-3 in the Big Eight and 4-5 overall. "We just could not play smash-em-out football with this team."

Near-blizzard conditions in Cyclone Stadium/Jack Trice Field forced both clubs to concentrate on their running attacks, thus smash-em-out football. A definite Cornhusker advantage.

With temperatures close to freezing, snow and northwest winds gusting from 25-40 miles per hour, Ames resembled places much farther north; say, the Arctic. No place for passing.

"The weather was really a factor," said NU defensive coordinator Charlie McBride. "It was probably to our advantage because we're a ball-control team. The throwing game is really an integral part of what they're doing."

The weather forced most of the 50,158 fans in attendance to exit prior to game's end. Many left as early as the second period.

Huskers and Cyclones, however, had to stick around until the finish.

Once NU's first-stringers completed their work, "then it started getting real cold," said offensive tackle Doug Glaser. "We bundled up together."

One Cornhusker, backup quarterback Mickey Joseph, experienced his first football game in snow.

"It was kind of weird," said Joseph, who came to Nebraska from Marrero, La. "I was cold. I appreciate two-a-days now just for the heat."

In Louisiana, "40 degrees is cold to us," said Joseph, who would rather "go down to Miami and play where it's warmer."

Walden saw the blustery weather, which made it hard to determine fan loyalty because of the multi-colored winter outfits in the stands, as a Husker advantage.

"They didn't need the weather on their side," he said. "We needed it on our side. This weather was not beneficial to the defense."

The Cyclone defense spent 10:42 of the first period on the field as Nebraska's offense worked against the wind.

Although they gained a first down in each of the first two drives, the Cornhuskers stalled and John Kroeker punt-

Kent Wells (91) and the Black Shirts stymied Iowa State for three quarters.



ed into the teeth of the wind.

Kroeker's first effort, a 24-yarder, put Iowa State at its 19 but Cyclone punter Judge Johnson booted an 80-yard punt, pinning Nebraska at its 9.

NU's second possession ended with a 46-yard Kroeker punt "that was really a key kick," said Nebraska kickers

and offensive line coach Dan Young.

Five plays into Iowa State's drive, Nebraska cornerback Charles Fryar intercepted a Bret Oberg pass and returned it to the Nebraska 36.

The Huskers then drove 64 yards in 11 plays, with quarterback Steve Taylor finding tight end Todd Millikan for a

6-yard touchdown pass with seven seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Millikan's scoring reception represented his seventh this season, tying Junior Miller for an NU tight end record, and the 14th of his career, a tight end record tying him with Bobby Thomas for second on NU's all-time list.

Nebraska kept the football on the ground for 19 of 21 plays in the opening period, a sign of things to come.

Husker running backs carried the football 68 times against ISU for a net total of 566 yards, sixth best on NU's list of top team rushing efforts from 1962-88.

Iowa State entered the Nebraska game allowing only 208 rushing yards a game.

"I'm a little bit surprised we moved the ball as well as we did," said NU head coach Tom Osborne. "I felt this would be a pretty difficult game."

Nebraska's offense needed a boost after gaining just 116 yards on the ground against Missouri.

In the second quarter alone in Ames, the Huskers sustained drives of 78, 67 and 50 yards by using exclusively running plays.

I-back Ken Clark, who gained 122 of his 146 rushing yards before intermission, scored on an 18-yard run to give NU a 14-0 lead with 8:58 remaining in the second quarter.

Fullback Bryan Carpenter made key blocks for Clark's 27-yard gain and an 11-yard keeper by Taylor during the drive. Tackle Bob Sledge led Clark to the end zone.

"We needed to come out and prove how good an offensive line and how good an offense we have," said Glaser. "We didn't play that well (against Missouri), and part of the problem was our line."

Clark added, "The offense as a whole had something to prove. Last week was embarrassing, really. Iowa State was who we took it out on."

Missouri used all-out blitzes to disrupt Nebraska's blocking schemes. The Tigers experienced success early in the game, Young said, and continued to blitz.

Iowa State "brought the Monster" a couple of times and used a "Houston blitz," but the Cyclones did not continue the scheme.



I-back Ken Clark returned to form with another 100-yard rushing day.

SCORING SUMMARY

Nebraska 51, Iowa State 16

Nebraska.....	7	24	7	13	— 51
Iowa State.....	0	0	3	13	— 16
Neb — Millikan 6 pass from Taylor (Barrios kick).					
Neb — Clark 18 run (Barrios kick).					
Neb — Taylor 28 run (Barrios kick).					
Neb — Taylor 23 run (Barrios kick).					
Neb — FG, Barrios 30.					
Neb — Taylor 11 run (Barrios kick).					
ISU — FG, Shudak 42.					
Neb — Gdowski 1 run (Barrios kick).					
ISU — Thibodeaux 67 run (Shudak kick).					
Neb — Flowers 3 run (pass failed).					
ISU — Ross 35 pass from DeGennaro (kick failed).					

Attendance: 50,158

"If you pick up the blitz pretty well, you don't see it again," Young said. "That's kind of what happened."

Iowa State used "more in-line stunts with the defensive front — twisting and looping. You have to be a little bit more patient and be ready for guys coming at you."

"With loops and stunts, sometimes it's harder to get outside. We ran more power football," said Young.

Taylor ended Nebraska's second and third possessions of the second quarter with option keepers for touchdowns. He scored on 28- and 23-yard runs to push the Huskers' lead to 28-0.

In the second quarter alone in Ames, the Huskers sustained drives of 78, 67 and 50 yards by using exclusively running plays.

Taylor, who added an 11-yard touchdown run in the third period, moved into a fourth-place tie with Keith Jones for career touchdowns scored with 31.

On what Osborne called "a tough day to play quarterback," Taylor rushed for 154 yards on 12 carries in less than three quarters of work.

Taylor, and substitute quarterbacks Gerry Gdowski and Joseph, combined for 254 rushing yards, most of which came on option keepers.

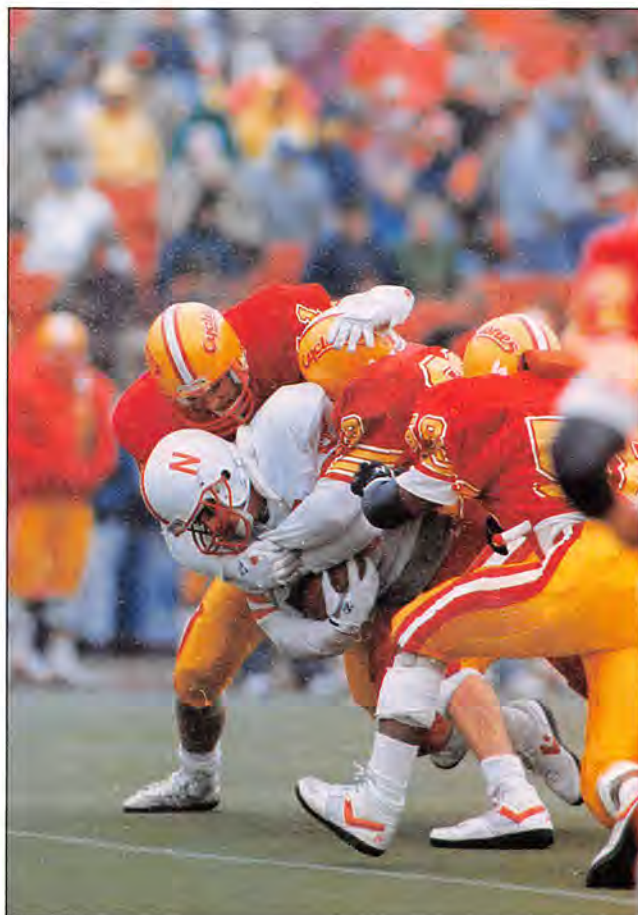
"It was fun today," said Taylor, who increased his career rushing record for quarterbacks to 2,018 yards.

Osborne quipped, "He ran about as well as I've ever seen him run."

Taylor completed two passes, one of 28 yards to Nate Turner and another of 20 yards to Morgan Gregory, in the final minute of the first half to move Nebraska in position for Gregg Barrios' 30-yard field goal as time expired.

Osborne and the Cornhuskers heard boos at halftime for the second consecutive week as Cyclone fans expressed their displeasure in NU taking two

The Husker ground game went full tilt, here with Lance Lewis driving for yardage.



timeouts in the final 1:42 to build a 31-0 halftime advantage. Last week Husker fans booed when Nebraska trailed Missouri 6-0 at halftime.

"We felt it was important to get as big a lead as we could," Osborne said. "It's not any disrespect for Iowa State. We didn't run up the score today. If they took it that way, I'm sorry."

Osborne expressed concern about the strong winds and playing condition of the field. A few turnovers and errors in the kicking game, he said, and Iowa State could rally.

"It would have looked awful silly if we lost the game 31-28."

No need to worry. The Black Shirts allowed the Cyclone offense, trick plays and all, little room to operate.

Before gaining 182 yards on their final three possessions of the game, Iowa State managed just 69 offensive yards against NU's first-line defense.

Nebraska kept a shutout until ISU's Jeff Shudak kicked a 42-yard field goal at the 2:22 mark of the third quarter,

four plays after Nebraska lost its only turnover at its 20.

Iowa State scored its two touchdowns on big plays — a 67-yard run by Paul Thibodeaux and Derek DeGennaro's 35-yard pass to Dennis Ross.

"As long as we had the top units in there, we played well offensively and defensively," Osborne said. "Once we started substituting, we had a few problems, but that's why they're on the second unit."

Iowa State, known for its tricky offense, basically "came right at us," said Nebraska defensive tackle Kent Wells.

The Cyclones used no huddle to start most possessions and went to punt formation on third down once, only to shift to the shotgun.

ISU's no huddle "really didn't have any effect," McBride said. "If anything, it got the defense in faster and they stood around a little more."

Linebackers LeRoy Etienne and Broderick Thomas led the Black Shirts

Photo by John Bills

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Taylor On the Run Again

Although Nebraska already led Iowa State 31-0, Husker quarterback Steve Taylor showed all his athletic ability during one play.

On first down from ISU's 11, Taylor faked a pitch to the right that attracted Cyclone defenders' attention. Taylor kept the football and rolled left.

Unable to find an open receiver and feeling the heat of rushing linemen, the senior from Fresno, Calif., reversed his field, searching for an available target.

Finally, wingback Dana Brinson sprinted across the back of the end zone and Taylor zipped an off-balance pass to Brinson's chest. The wingback

dropped the pass, but Taylor ran for an 11-yard touchdown on the next play.

The scoring jaunt marked Taylor's third touchdown on a day when he gained a game-high 154 yards on 12 carries.

"He ran about as well as I've ever seen him run," said NU head coach Tom Osborne.

The All-American quarterback wanted to prove something to himself against the Cyclones. Cold weather had hindered his performance in the past, Taylor said, and Ames provided a suitable setting for the Cornhusker to test his winter skills.

"When you get cold, you just aren't as loose as you normally are," Taylor said. "I dressed appropriately. I had long johns on."

After losing 2 yards each on his first two option keepers, Taylor ripped off runs of 11, 28, 20, 23, 11 and 36 yards before leaving the game permanently with 8:20 remaining in the third period.

"Steve did a really good job reading the defense and taking what they gave him," said NU coach Dan Young.

Taylor completed five of nine passes for 71 yards, including one touchdown, to run his career total yardage to 4,767 yards, 3 shy of Mike Rozier, who stands third on the all-time Nebraska list.

Nebraska I-back Ken Clark rushed for 100 yards or more for the third time in the Huskers' last four games. Clark carried 20 times against Iowa State for 146 yards. ■

Steve Taylor came close to breaking the quarterback rushing record he already owns.



with eight and seven total tackles, respectively. Thomas, NU's candidate for the Lombardi Trophy, climbed one notch on NU's total tackle list to ninth with 226 career stops.

Chris Caliendo made five tackles from his inside linebacker spot and Randall Jobman and Jeff Mills, two more NU linebackers, made four stops each.

"It was supposed to be like that early in the season," said Thomas, referring to NU's second consecutive solid defensive effort. "Our defense did a great job."

Defensive and offensive success in one game. Nebraska searched for that combination for nine games before accomplishing the much-desired goal against Iowa State. The effort against Kansas State came close.

As a result, Huskers fans who traveled to Ames saw a different Cyclone team than the one which recorded three victories (Northern Iowa, 20-17; Missouri, 21-3; and Kansas, 42-14) in its previous four games.

"They didn't show what kind of ball team they are," McBride said.

And the Cornhuskers displayed the caliber of football team they can be. And none too soon.

Colorado and Oklahoma, NU's opponents the next two weeks, stand in the Huskers' path to the Orange Bowl.

"The next two games will tell what our season's going to be like," Clark said. ■



Even though assistant coach Ron Brown and the Huskers were cold, the offense was a hot item.

SEASON RECAP	8/27 A&M	9/3 USU	9/10 UCLA	9/24 ASU	10/1 UNLV	10/8 KU	10/15 OSU	10/22 KSU	10/29 MU	11/5 ISU	11/12 CU	11/9 OU	BOWL	SEASON AVERAGE
First Downs	19	34	21	29	26	38	28	32	9	29				27
Yards Rushing	201	421	260	441	444	547	570	479	116	566				405
Yards Passing	125	169	125	29	56	118	92	143	153	71				108
Fumbles - Lost	5-3	0-0	2-1	2-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	7-3	3-1				2-1
Time of Possession	60%	54%	44%	57%	59%	54%	53%	65%	48%	53%				55%
Third Down Conversions	50%	50%	46%	45%	56%	40%	58%	63%	15%	69%				49%
Final Score	23-14	63-14	28-41	47-16	48-6	63-10	63-42	48-3	26-18	51-16				46-18

NOTES & QUOTES

Saturday's wet and cold weather prompted a few equipment adjustments for Huskers.

Nebraska players wore "wet-weather shoes," according to I-back Tyreese Knox. The Cornhuskers experienced few footing problems "until later in the ball game."

Mickey Joseph, NU's third quarterback in the game, admitted to running gingerly on the Cyclone Stadium turf.

"I was running kind of like that. I didn't want to have my feet go out from under me," he said. "When you exploded, it felt like you were going to slip."

Ball carriers wore gloves early in the game, but Knox said some Huskers removed them later in the game because they became wet and slick.

Despite the weather conditions, the two Big Eight teams combined for only four fumbles. NU lost the handle three times and lost one fumble.

"We kept reminding each other about hanging on to the football," Knox

said. "You have to be more cautious about the ball."

Joseph added, "You squeeze it as tight as you can because you can't feel your fingers."

Tom Osborne improved his 16-year record at Nebraska to 156-35-2 and ranks as the second-winningest coach in NCAA Division I-A. Osborne's career winning percentage trails only that of Oklahoma's Barry Switzer, who is 156-27-4 in 16 years.

Iowa State's Jim Walden is 51-65-4 in his 11th year as a head coach, 7-13 in his second year with the Cyclones, following a nine-year term at Washington State.

Walden started as quarterback at Wyoming in 1958 and 1959 for Coach Bob Devaney and later served four years on Devaney's coaching staff at Nebraska: as a graduate assistant in 1969 and 1970, as assistant freshman coach in 1971 and as defensive ends coach in 1972.

Walden moved on to Miami (Fla.) in

1973 when another former Devaney assistant, Carl Selmer, was named the Hurricanes' head coach, then went to Washington State as an assistant to yet another former NU aide, Warren Powers, in 1977, before becoming the Cougars' head man in 1978. Osborne is now 14-2-0 versus Iowa State, 2-0-0 versus Walden.

Saturday's game marked the 83rd meeting in the ISU-NU series which began in 1896. Nebraska leads, 68-13-2, including a 42-3 win in Lincoln last year and a 35-14 win at Ames in 1986. The Huskers have won 11 in a row from the Cyclones since a 24-21 loss in Lincoln in 1977 and NU has won five straight at Ames since a 37-28 loss in 1976.

Osborne commented about Walden's season-long claims that the Cyclones cannot compete because of their low scholarship numbers. "My point is this: When I see teams get down in numbers, it's because they've changed their coaches."

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NU I-back Ken Clark, with 146 yards on 20 carries against ISU, increased his season rushing total to 1,165, sixth-best one-year total in Nebraska history. With two regular season games remaining, Clark, a junior from Omaha, needs 67 yards to catch Keith Jones (1,232 in 1987), 146 to match I.M. Hipp (1,301 in 1977), and 187 to reach Bobby Reynolds (1,342 in 1982). Mike Rozier compiled Nebraska's top two rushing seasons with 2,148 yards in 1983 and 1,689 in 1982.

The 51-16 victory over Iowa State assured Nebraska of at least a nine-win season for the 25th time in an NCAA-record 27 consecutive winning seasons.

Nebraska's 637-yard effort versus the Cyclones pushed the Huskers' per game offensive average back over the 500-yard mark. During the season, NU has totaled more than 600 yards on four occasions — 665 against Kansas, 662 against Oklahoma State, 622 versus Kansas State, and 637 against Iowa

State. All four efforts rank in NU's top 20 during 1962-88.

When Iowa State's Jeff Shudak nailed a 42-yard field goal with 54 seconds remaining in the third quarter, it marked the 12th consecutive good field goal kicked by an NU opponent. Since the Texas A&M placekicker missed a 35-yard attempt in the Kickoff Classic, no opposing field goal kicker has failed on an opportunity. The 12 opposing efforts have included seven kicks of more than 40 yards, five of 50 or longer.

NU's Gregg Barrios booted his third consecutive good field goal with a 30-yard effort against the Cyclones. Barrios (6-for-8) and Chris Drennan (3-of-4) have combined to make 9-of-12 field goals for Nebraska in 1988.

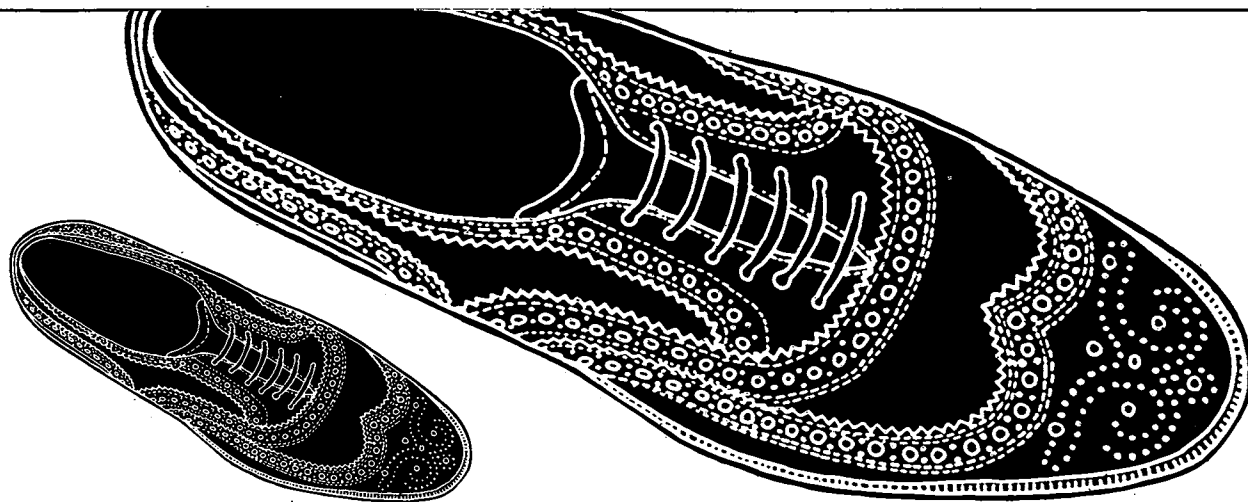
Points scored by both Nebraska and Iowa State represented the highest figure for each team since the Huskers' 72-29 victory in 1983.

Steve Taylor, Gerry Gdowski, and Richard Bell recorded season-high rush-

ing statistics against Iowa State. Taylor outdid his previous season best of 140 yards versus Oklahoma State with a 154-yard effort in Ames. Bell carried four times for 40 yards against the Cyclones and Gdowski gained 56 yards on four rushes, including a season-long run of 45 yards.

Paul Thibodeaux's 67-yard touchdown run Saturday represented the longest run from scrimmage against Nebraska in 1988.

With its 24 second-quarter points versus Iowa State, Nebraska increased its highest-scoring period average. Through 10 games, the Huskers have scored 14.3 points per game in the second quarter, while averaging 11.4, 10.6, and 9.7 in the first, fourth, and third periods, respectively. NU averages 46 points per contest while limiting opponents to 17.9.



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STATISTICS

RUSHING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Clark	20-80-1-4.0	12-90-1-7.5	12-46-0-3.8	22-122-1-5.5	14-79-3-5.6	10-64-0-6.4	27-256-3-9.5	20-225-1-11.3	23-57-0-2.5	20-146-1			180-1,165-11-6.5
Taylor	18-34-0-1.9	9-74-2-8.2	14-95-1-6.8	17-116-1-6.8	11-67-0-6.1	8-43-2-5.4	11-140-3-12.7	11-34-0-3.1	13-(38)-0-(2.9)	12-154-3			124-719-12-5.8
Knox		5-50-0-10.0	3-8-0-2.7	4-26-0-6.5	8-57-0-7.1	6-120-1-20.0	10-53-0-5.3	19-108-4-5.7	2-4-1-2.0	10-44-0			67-470-6-7.0
Carpenter	3-4-0-1.3	4-30-0-7.5	5-47-0-9.4	7-26-0-3.7	5-59-1-11.8	2-33-1-16.5	7-76-0-10.8	6-18-0-3.0	12-96-1-8.0	6-40-0			57-429-0-7.5
Rodgers	10-65-0-6.5	7-19-1-2.7	2-12-0-6.0	13-113-1-8.7	11-50-1-4.5								43-259-3-6.0
Flowers		3-18-0-6.0		2-14-0-7.0	3-37-0-12.3	13-80-1-6.1		8-41-0-5.1		3-12-1			32-202-2-6.3
Joseph		3-34-1-11.3		2-15-1-7.5	1-22-0-22.0	12-77-1-6.4		2-23-0-11.5		4-44-0			24-215-3-8.9
Lewis		4-15-0-3.8	1-9-0-9.0	2-1-0-0.5	3-16-0-5.3	10-50-1-5.0	2-5-0-2.5	3-18-0-6.0		4-18-0			29-132-1-4.5
Gdowski		6-40-1-6.7		1-(2)-0-(2.0)	1-19-0-19.0	5-42-0-8.4				4-56-1			17-155-2-9.1
Brinson	1-1-0-1.0	5-30-0-6.0	3-40-0-13.3	2-(7)-0-(7.0)	1-2-0-2.0		1-1-0-1.0	4-8-0-2.0	2-(3)-0-(1.5)	1-12-0			20-84-0-4.2
Bell	1-(5)-0-(5.0)				1-(4)-0-(4.5)	4-33-0-8.3	1-38-0-38.0			4-40-0			11-102-0-9.3
Schmidt	6-22-0-3.7	2-13-1-6.5	1-3-0-3.0										9-38-1-4.2
Dunlap				1-9-0-8.0	1-24-0-24.0								2-32-0-16.0
Coleman		1-3-0-3.0		1-9-0-9.0	2-5-0-2.5								4-17-0-4.3
Harchelroad		1-5-0-5.0				1-3-0-3.0		1-4-0-4.0					3-12-0-4.0
Devall					1-9-0-8.0								1-9-0-9.0
Worden		1-0-0-0.0			1-0-0-0.0	2-2-0-2.0							4-2-0-0.5
Baldwin					1-2-1-2.0								1-2-1-2.0
Gregory							1-1-0-1.0						1-1-0-1.0
Team Total	59-201-1-3.4	63-421-7-6.7	41-260-1-6.3	74-441-4-5.9	65-444-6-6.8	73-547-7-7.5	60-570-6-9.5	74-479-5-6.5	52-116-2-2.2				629-4,045-45-6.4
Opp. Total	37-185-2-5.0	22-19-0-0.9	47-233-1-4.9	38-116-1-3.1	23-58-0-2.5	38-77-0-2.0	44-208-4-4.7	20-44-0-2.2	55-156-1-2.8				363-1,244-10-3.4

(Legend: Attempts-Yards-TDs-Average)

PASSING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Taylor	22-11-0-125-1	10-7-0-143-1	29-14-3-125-2	10-3-1-29-1	10-6-0-56-0	9-7-0-78-1	11-6-1-92-2	11-6-0-129-1	9-3-0-153-1	9-5-0-71-1			130-68-5-1,001-11
Gdowski		3-2-0-19-1				3-2-0-31-0		1-1-0-14-0		1-0-0-0-0			8-5-0-64-1
Joseph		1-1-0-7-0				2-1-1-9-0		1-0-1-0-0					4-2-2-16-0
Total	22-11-0-125-1	14-10-0-169-2	29-14-3-125-2	10-3-1-29-1	10-6-0-56-0	14-10-1-118-1	11-6-1-92-2	13-7-1-143-1	9-3-0-153-1				142-75-7-1,081-12

(Legend: Attempts-Completions-Interceptions-Yards-TDs)

RECEIVING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Gregory	4-44-0	1-13-0	5-57-1	3-29-1	2-21-0	1-11-0	2-32-0		1-12-0	1-20-0			20-239-2
Millikan	2-33-1	1-8-0	2-9-1			3-57-1	3-52-2	2-52-0	1-82-1	1-6-1			8-5-0-64-1
Brinson	1-8-0	1-34-0	3-15-0		3-28-0		1-8-0	2-55-1					15-299-7
Bell	1-9-0	3-77-1	1-17-0			2-26-0							7-129-1
Turner	2-23-0		1-5-0		1-7-0	1-9-0		1-19-0	1-59-0	1-28-0			8-150-0
Clark		1-13-0	2-22-0			2-4-0				1-6-0			6-45-0
Worden		2-18-0						1-14-0					3-32-0
Flowers						1-11-0							1-11-0
Kratzenstein	1-8-0									1-11-0			2-19-0
Devall		1-6-1											1-6-1
Carpenter								1-3-0					1-3-0
Totals	11-125-1	10-169-2	14-125-2	3-29-1	6-56-0	10-118-1	6-92-2	7-143-1	3-153-1				75-1,081-12

(Legend: Catches-Yards-Yds)

TACKLES — LINEMEN

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Griffin	3-1-4; 0-0	2-1-3; 1-1	3-2-5; 0-0	4-1-5; 1-1	3-1-4; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	5-1-6; 2-11	1-0-1; 0-0	4-2-6; 2-12	0-1-1; 0-0			26-11-37; 6-25
Pete		2-0-2; 1-8	5-0-5; 0-0	3-2-5; 1-12	2-1-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	3-2-5; 0-0		7-3-10; 2-11	0-3-3; 0-0			23-13-36; 4-31
Wells	0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-4	1-1-2; 0-0	0-3-3; 1-4	3-2-5; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-8	5-2-7; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0			12-16-28; 3-16
Brungardt	1-1-2; 1-7	1-1-2; 0-0	6-0-6; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0		1-1-2; 1-1				1-2-3; 1-4			11-6-17; 3-12
Murray	3-1-4; 1-1	2-2-4; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0				0-1-1; 0-0			5-6-11; 1-1
Sims				0-2-2; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-8	0-1-1; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0		1-2-3; 1-3			2-6-8; 2-11
Monarrez		0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	0-2-2; 0-0				0-1-1; 0-0			1-5-6; 0-0
Edgren		1-0-1; 0-0			0-1-1; 0-0			0-1-1; 0-0					1-2-3; 0-0
Valladao	0-2-2; 1-1									0-1-1; 0-0			0-3-3; 1-1

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total Tackles; Tackles for loss-Yards lost)

TACKLES — LINEBACKERS

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Thomas	6-8-14; 1-1	5-2-7; 3-23	8-3-11; 1-4	5-5-10; 1-2	3-1-4; 1-14	2-6-8; 1-2	4-4-8; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-7	4-5-9; 1-9	5-2-7; 2-12			43-38-81; 12-74
Etienne	6-5-11; 1-1	3-1-4; 0-0	8-1-9; 0-0	5-2-7; 0-0		3-3-6; 0-0	6-2-8; 1-4	1-3-4; 1-5	3-3-6; 1-4	3-5-8; 1-1			38-25-63; 5-15
Tyrance	2-2-4; 0-0	4-1-5; 0-0	6-2-8; 0-0	0-3-3; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	0-2-2; 1-4	2-2-4; 0-0	3-1-4; 0-0		0-2-2; 0-0			19-15-34; 1-4
Mills	4-2-6; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-5	2-1-3; 1-2	1-1-2; 0-0	3-4-7; 1-4	2-1-3; 0-0	3-2-5; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-0	1-3-4; 1-2			19-19-38; 4-13
Jobman	3-0-3; 0-0	2-1-3; 0-0	3-1-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-3-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0		3-1-4; 0-0			16-13-29; 0-0
Caliendo		1-0-1; 0-0		1-1-2; 0-0	3-0-3; 0-0	4-1-5; 0-0	3-5-8; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	9-2-11; 1-1	0-5-5; 0-0			25-14-39; 1-1
Marco	1-2-3; 0-0		3-2-5; 0-0	2-0-2; 1-1	1-2-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-8	2-1-3; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0			13-11-24; 2-9
Croel	2-0-2; 0-0	2-3-5; 1-6		3-0-3; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-7			14-8-22; 2-13
Hagge		1-1-2; 0-0		4-0-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	3-0-3; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-2		0-2-2; 0-0			10-5-15; 1-2
Ferguson		1-0-1; 0-0		2-0-2; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-2					5-3-8; 1-2
Miller		1-0-1; 0-0			2-1-3; 0-0								3-1-4; 0-0
Buchanan					2-0-2; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0						3-0-3; 0-0
Svelha		1-0-1; 0-0						2-0-2; 0-0		1-0-1; 1-1			4-0-4; 1-1
Walker	1-0-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0											2-1-3; 0-0

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total tackles; Tackles for loss-Yards lost)

TACKLES — BACKS

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Cooper	4-4-8; 0-0	5-2-7; 1-0	4-2-6; 0-0	3-2-5; 1-0	3-2-5; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	6-4-10; 0-0	3-1-4; 1-1	4-0-4; 0-1	0-1-1; 0-0			34-18-52; 3-2
Blazek	0-5-5; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-1	4-2-6; 0-1	4-2-6; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	0-0-0; 1-0	1-1-2; 0-1	2-2-4; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0			13-15-28; 1-3
Jackson	1-1-2; 1-1	1-1-2; 0-0	2-3-5; 1-0	3-1-4; 0-2		2-0-2; 0-0	5-1-6; 0-1	2-0-2; 1-0	4-0-4; 0-1	1-0-1; 0-0			21-7-28; 3-5
Fryar	3-5-8; 0-1	2-0-2; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-0			4-0-4; 1-1	1-0-1; 0-0	9-0-9; 0-0	0-0-0; 1-1			24-5-29; 3-3
Lewis		2-0-2; 2-0	2-1-3; 1-0	2-2-4; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-1	0-1-1; 0-0	2-1-3; 0-0					10-8-18; 4-1
Hicks	2-1-3; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	3-0-3; 1-0		4-1-5; 1-0						14-2-16; 2-0
Sanders	1-0-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	1-3-4; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-1		0-1-1; 1-0			8-8-16; 1-1
Pickens	1-0-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-0		1-1-2; 0-0		2-2-4; 0-0		3-0-3; 0-1		2-0-2; 0-0			10-4-14; 1-1
Custard		1-0-1; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0			1-0-0; 0-0				2-0-2; 0-0			6-0-6; 0-0
Crippen		1-0-1; 1-0						2-1-3; 0-0					3-1-4; 1-0
Vampola		2-1-3; 0-0											2-1-3; 0-0
Walker, C.					1-0-1; 0-0								1-0-1; 0-0
Settles		1-0-1; 0-0											1-0-1; 0-0
Carmer					1-0-1; 0-0								1-0-1; 0-0
Olson		1-0-1; 0-0											1-0-1; 0-0

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total tackles; Pass breakups-Interceptions)

TEAM STATISTICS

	GAME				SEASON					GAME				
	NU	ISU	NU	OPP	NU	ISU	NU	OPP		NU	ISU	NU	OPP	
First downs	29	13	263	153					Total plays	78	56	771	625	
First downs rushing	24	8	203	67					Net yards	636	251	5125	2780	
First downs passing	4	4	43	66					Average gain per play	8.2	4.5	6.6	4.4	
First downs penalty	1	1	13	20					Fumbles lost	3-1	1-0	21-9	19-0	
Rushing attempts	68	39	629	363					Penalties - yards	7-60	7-40	71-601	61-480	
Yards gained rushing	573	185	4268	1550					Interceptions - yards	1-5	0	16-328	7-58	
Yards lost rushing	7	37	223	306					Punts	3	8	29	64	
Net yards rushing	566	148	4045	1244					Punt average	43.3	44.8	41.3	38.7	
Passing attempts	10	17	142	262					Kickoff returns - yards	3-56	4-39	38-751	57-859	
Passes completed	5	7	75	119					Punt returns - yards	1-6	—	37-445	16-143	
Passes intercepted	0	1	7	17					Possession time	31:32	28:12	31:32	26:54	
Net yards passing	71	103	1081	1536					3rd down conversions	9-13	2-13	64-125	28-154	

BIG EIGHT CONFERENCE STANDINGS THROUGH GAMES OF NOVEMBER 5

Team	CONFERENCE GAMES						ALL GAMES					
	Win	Loss	Tie	Pct.	PF	PA	Win	Loss	Tie	Pct.	PF	PA
Nebraska	5	0		1.000	251	89	9	1		.900	460	180
Oklahoma	5	0		1.000	216	87	8	1		.888	307	133
Oklahoma State	3	2		.600	205	163	6	2		.750	364	233
Colorado	3	2		.600	125	87	7	2		.778	249	155
Iowa State	2	3		.400	96	127	4	5		.444	151	202
Missouri	1	4		.200	102	162	2	6	1	.250	183	297
Kansas	1	4		.200	77	201	1	8		.111	148	332
Kansas State	0	5		.000	97	245	0	9		.000	150	376

Mike Babcock

All Systems Go

Secondary? Check. Outside linebackers? Check. Inside linebackers? Check. Defensive line? Check.

Bring on the wishbone.

Nebraska's defense would seem to be about as ready as it'll ever be.

The Cornhuskers are rarin' to go.

"I like the wishbone," defensive tackle Willie Griffin said after Nebraska's 51-16 victory over Iowa State last Saturday in Ames.

The game was a systems check for the Black Shirts, who must deal with the wishbone offenses of Colorado and Oklahoma in the final two games of the regular season.

A pair of victories would give Nebraska its first Big Eight championship, outright, since 1983.

The Cornhuskers shared the conference title with Oklahoma in 1984.

Championships are won with defense, said Broderick Thomas, Nebraska's senior All-American outside lineback-

er and a leading candidate for both the Lombardi Award and Butkus Award.

"Broderick has played well all season," says Osborne.

That was expected.

But going into this season, the Cornhuskers' defense overall was a concern, primarily because of an inexperienced interior line.

Based on recent weeks, however, you can check off that area.

"I didn't think they were that tough up-front," Iowa State running back Joe Henderson said after being limited to just 34 yards on 17 carries in last Saturday's game. "I was wrong."

Nebraska's defensive front, of noseguard Lawrence Pete and tackles Kent Wells and Griffin earned his respect.

"Right now, we've got three guys who are playing pretty well," says Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne.

"They're a little different kind of

defensive line than we've had in the past, where we had guys like Jim Skow and Neil Smith, who relied on a lot of speed. They were great pass rushers.

"These guys are big, bulky people who take up a lot of space in there."

Pete is 6-foot-1, 270 pounds. Wells is 6-5, 285. And Griffin is 6-3, 275.

Because of their size and strength, opponents find it "hard to knock them off the ball," says Osborne. At the same time, "they have reasonably good movement."

"They're not like Neil Smith, but they can move around pretty good."

Their strength and mobility, combined with discipline, will be important if Nebraska is to contain the wishbone attacks of Colorado and Oklahoma.

A quick check of recent games against the Buffaloes and Sooners should convince you of that.

Smith was credited with a combined total of 22 tackles in Nebraska's last two games with Colorado. He led the Cornhuskers with 12 tackles, including nine unassisted, in last season's 24-7 victory. He and Lee Jones, another defensive tackle, each made 10 tackles in a 20-10 Nebraska loss in 1986.

Colorado had relatively little offensive success in either of those games, gaining 226 total yards in 1987 and 263 total yards in 1986. Clearly, it's what's up front that counts.

To contain an offense like Colorado's, of course, every phase of the defense has to be in synch. Linebackers LeRoy Etienne and Steve Forch were each credited with nine tackles in last season's game, and Marc Munford had a team-high 11 tackles in 1986.

After a slump that began early in the non-conference season and saw him temporarily lose his starting job, Etienne has come on at strongside linebacker. And Chris Caliendo has claimed weakside job. "Caliendo has come out of the pack," Osborne says of the junior from Brookfield, Wis.

"He's made a lot of improvement."

So have outside linebackers Jeff Mills and Mike Croel, according to Osborne.



Improving down the stretch, the Black Shirts appear ready to stop option football.

Mills, a junior, and Croel, a sophomore, join Thomas and senior Jon Marco to give the Cornhuskers two-deep strength on the outside.

Finally, there's the secondary, where Nebraska was expected to be good.

And the Cornhuskers are.

Seniors Charles Fryar and Lorenzo Hicks start at the corners, and two of the top three safeties are seniors, Tim Jackson and Mark Blazek.

Strong safety Reggie Cooper, who's "made continued progress," according to Osborne, is a sophomore.

"You really need good safety men against a wishbone team" for run support, Osborne says. "Cooper and Jackson and Blazek, when he's healthy, give us pretty good people there."

The secondary and the linebackers, inside and outside, were expected to be good, though, while no one was certain how the interior would shake out.

That became an even bigger question near the end of spring practice, when Pete quit the team. There was doubt he would be reinstated in the fall, and even after he was, he couldn't contribute immediately, first because he was out of shape and then because he was bothered by recurrent tonsillitis.

In recent weeks, however, "Lawrence has come back and played as well or better than he did as a sophomore," Osborne says, noting that Pete played extremely well his sophomore year as a

backup to Danny Noonan.

"Last year, we didn't think he (Pete) had a real good year. He did all right. But he's probably 50 percent better than he was last year."

One key to stopping a wishbone is controlling the fullback, the way Pete did Missouri's Tommy Stowers.

Colorado fullback Erich Kissick gained only 49 yards on 13 carries against Nebraska last season in Boulder. The year before, Buffalo fullback Anthony Weatherspoon rushed for 34 yards.

Compare those totals to the 119 yards on 24 carries Oklahoma fullback Rotnei Anderson gained against Nebraska in the Sooners' 17-7 victory last year.

Get the idea? With a wishbone, you've got to control the fullback.

Pete shouldn't be on his own inside because of the emergence of Griffin and Wells. "I was really pleased with several players (this season) — and Wells was one of them — who kind of came out of the pack," says Osborne.

At the beginning of the season, Wells, a junior from Lincoln East High School, "was just one of six tackles. And Griffin, to some degree, emerged from the pack, too," Osborne says.

Among the others in that group were sophomores Joe Sims and Paul Brungardt and junior Ray Valladao, who's just now coming back from arthroscopic knee surgery. All three are rotated into

the lineup on a situational basis.

But Griffin and Wells have established themselves as the starters.

Going into the Iowa State game, Nebraska ranked first in the Big Eight in both total defense and pass defense and second in rushing defense and scoring defense. And the Cornhuskers didn't do anything to hurt those rankings against the Cyclones.

Iowa State gained 202 of its 251 yards of total offense after Nebraska had built a 38-0 lead. And the Cyclones needed a fumble recovery at the Cornhusker 20-yard line to get on the scoreboard with a field goal.

Nebraska should be ready for its stretch run and the wishbone.

"You just have to tackle well and get as many three-plays-and-outs as possible," Griffin said.

Fryar is fired up.

"We'll be facing the 'bone, and our intensity can be increased," he said. "But I don't think we have to do anything except play good defense."

Take away the first quarter of their loss to UCLA and parts of the Oklahoma State game, and the Cornhuskers have played reasonably good defense throughout the season.

Based on that, "I think we'll have a good background, a good resume, going into the Colorado game," Fryar said.

The final checks have been made.

All systems are go. ■



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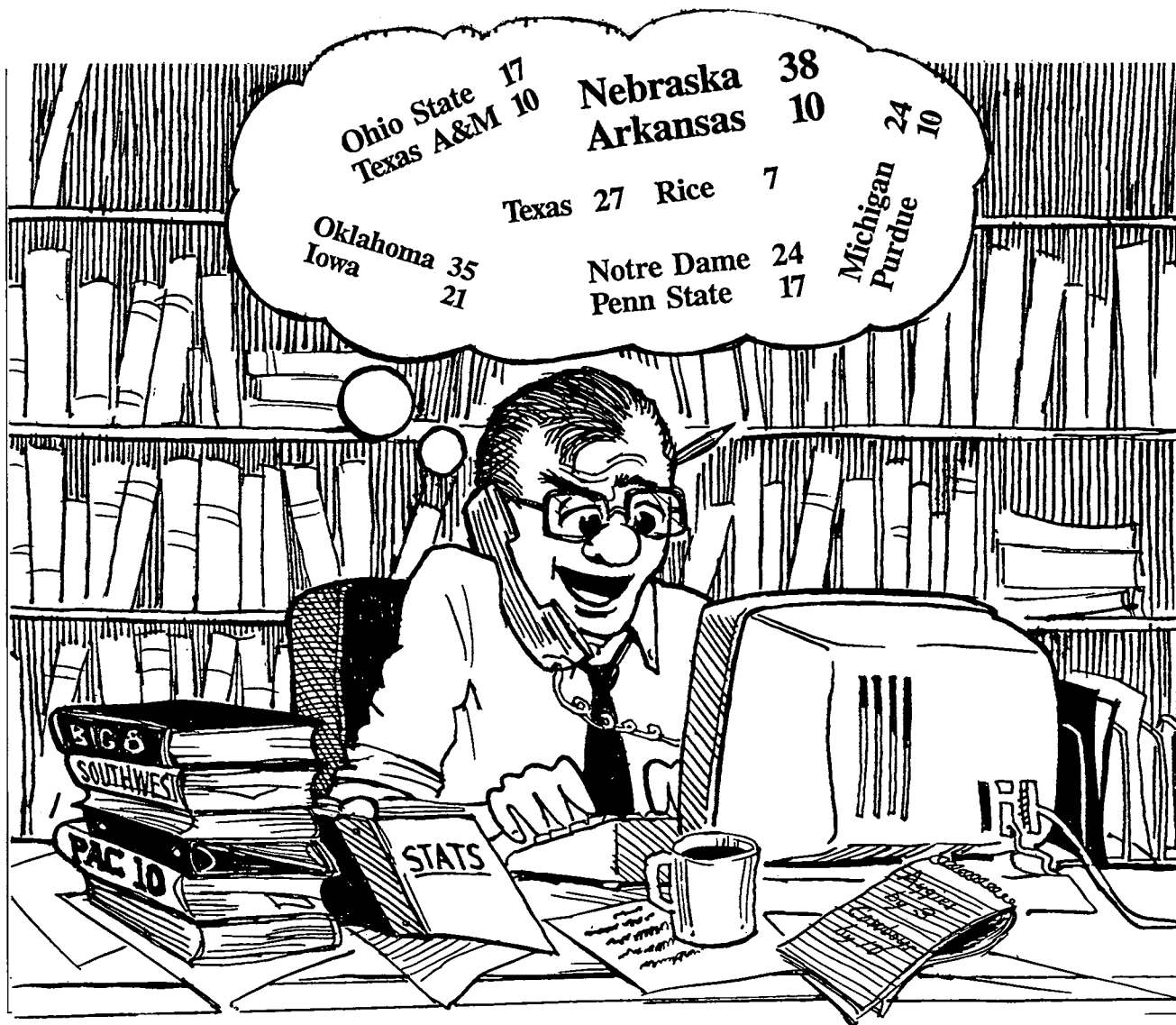
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HUSKERS PREVIEWED

Predictions



Bufs Will Want Blood

Greg Mills, KWGN-TV, Englewood, Colo.: "If this game was being played in Boulder, I would think that the Buffs would have a chance to win. However, it's in Lincoln so the Big Red will have the crowd on their side. It is so tough to win against the Huskers in Lincoln. Missouri almost pulled off an upset a couple of weeks ago and that will give Colorado some confidence about going into Memorial Stadium. The way that Colorado played against the Tigers also influences their play in this game.

"The Buffs almost beat OU with a balanced combination of running and passing the ball. They'll try the same plan of attack against Nebraska. The

Colorado wishbone allows more pass attempts out of it than the Sooner wishbone does. This will be a very close game, but the **Huskers will prevail by the score of 28-17.**"

Jim Pedley, *Longmont Times-Call*, Longmont, Colo.: "Playing in Lincoln is tough on any team, especially teams that are members of the Big Eight. The home-field advantage will be just that for the Huskers. The Buffaloes have gone away from their traditional wishbone set to what is called the 'I-Bone.' It was designed specifically for teams like Nebraska and Oklahoma. This offensive set allows for Colorado to throw the ball quite a bit more than they

have in the past.

"I can't see the Buffaloes being able to shut down the Husker power running game like they did the Sooner wishbone. The Buffs have some confidence after playing the Sooners so close in Boulder and Missouri playing Nebraska such a tough game in Lincoln. Even with confidence, however, I'll say that the **Huskers will win this game by two or three touchdowns.**"

Peter Finch, KBCO-FM, Boulder, Colo.: "Everybody knows that Colorado will be fixed up for this game. They always enjoy playing the Huskers. But, playing in Lincoln will definitely hurt the Buffs. The home-field advantage al-

ways plays a big part in Colorado-Nebraska games. The Nebraska-Missouri game had a big impact on this game. It gave Colorado hope that the Husker 'home-field dominance' might be fading. I don't think that it is.

"Colorado pulled some surprises on the Sooners. They tried passing the ball quite a bit and they went for the big plays. But, they targeted Oklahoma as the Game of the Year. They may try the big plays against Nebraska, but they will be much less effective. A lot of people up here say Nebraska has the best shot at the Orange Bowl and I agree. **Nebraska 30, Colorado 14.**"

Kent Groshong, KOA-AM, Denver, Colo.: "When two teams are unequal, the home-field advantage comes into play but Nebraska and Colorado are essentially equal. Playing in Lincoln will cause the Buffs some problems, but not as much as it would at Kansas or Kansas State. If Colorado plays as well against Nebraska as it did against Oklahoma, they will do very well. They (Colorado) still have a good chance at a bowl, so this is a big game.

"Colorado's key to this game is keeping the Huskers off-balance on defense. They need to try to throw the ball against the Husker secondary quite a bit. Nebraska will look for a rushing attack, so the Buffs need to cross up the Husker defensive scheme. This will be a very close game, but I think that **Nebraska will win somewhere in the neighborhood of 24-21.**"

Paul Maca, KTTT-AM, Columbus, Neb.: "These two schools always play well against each other and this year should be no exception. I don't know exactly how well Colorado will do offensively against the Husker defense. Playing this game in Lincoln does pose a big problem for the Buffaloes. The Cornhusker fans get behind their team no matter where they go. There are always a lot of Nebraska fans at the games in Boulder.

"Even with the Oklahoma game just over the horizon, Nebraska won't look past Colorado, especially after the score by Missouri a couple of weeks ago. Colorado won't shut down the Husker offense like they did the Sooners in Boulder. Nebraska has a strong tradition against Colorado and they will prove

that again this year. I'll go with **Nebraska 42, Colorado 13.**"

Steve Altmaier, KGFW-AM, Kearney, Neb.: "This game will be extremely close. Colorado proved how well they could play when they almost upset Oklahoma in Boulder and Nebraska showed some vulnerabilities against Missouri in Lincoln. That close game may cause Nebraska to bear down for this game. Oklahoma pretty much self-destructed in Boulder, but Nebraska's eyes will be open for the Buffs.

"Lincoln is always a big factor for visiting teams because the Husker fans are always so intense when the Huskers take the field. Combine that with the fact that this is the Nebraska seniors' last home football game and you know that the Huskers will be extremely fired up for this one. Knowing that they're going down the chute for the last time is a great incentive to beat Colorado. I'll predict the final score as **Nebraska 30, Colorado 14.**"

Paul Meador, KZEN-FM, Central City, Neb.: "This is going to be one hard-fought football game. There are still a lot of Nebraska fans and players who remember the Buffs beating us a couple of years ago in Boulder (a 20-10 upset victory in 1986). Since the game is being played in Lincoln, Nebraska will have the fans behind them in their last home football game.

"Colorado is a tough football game and their team always fights Nebraska until the final gun. I think that Nebraska's offense has a chance of getting shut down like the Sooner wishbone did. Missouri came up with a pretty good defensive scheme a couple of weeks ago, so it is very possible. Colorado has a good shot at winning this football game, but I don't think they will. I'll say **Nebraska 17, Colorado 10.**"

Randy Issler, KUVF-AM, Holdrege, Neb.: "I can't see how this game will be close at all. The Huskers are playing this final home game in Lincoln, but that won't have much to do with the outcome of this game.

"Oklahoma was shut down by the Buffalo defense. I think that Colorado might slow the Husker offense some, but they won't hold Nebraska to as few points as they did the Sooners. **Nebraska will win, 34-17.**" ■

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Colorado Buffaloes

It's triple-option time. First, it's Colorado and its I-bone, then Oklahoma and the true wishbone in two weeks. The Buffs have ranked in the Top 5 nationally all year in rushing yards per game.

Halfback Eric Bieniemy (5-6, 190, so.) has become the first CU back to rush for 1,000 yards since James Mayberry in 1977. He ran for 211 yards against Oregon State, 195 versus Kansas, 114 against OU and 106 at Missouri. He's on track to set a Colorado school rushing record. Trouble is, Bieniemy gets little support. Quarterback Sal Aunese is CU's second-leading rusher, and he averages less than 40 yards per game.

Against Oklahoma, a 17-14 win for the Sooners, Aunese led a rejuvenated CU passing attack as the Buffs stunned OU early with long passes and trick plays. But Colorado doesn't control the ball. After nine games, CU still trails its opponents in cumulative time of possession. OU held the ball for almost 40 minutes on the Buffs.

Aunese is one reason for that inconsistency. He's completing just 44 percent



Sal Aunese

of his passes. Backups Darian Hagan and Marc Walters are even less effective. Despite a fine offensive line, speedy backs and a solid kicking game, the Buff offense is basically average.

On defense, the secondary is no help at all, and Coach Bill McCartney doesn't deny it. "We haven't gotten any leadership from them because they're too busy just trying to hang on," he says.

Ravaged by 1987 graduation, the DBs simply haven't jelled in 1988. There's not a senior anywhere in the secondary. Still, linebackers Michael Jones and Don DeLuzio are solid, as are defensive tackle Arthur Walker and ends Alfred Williams and Kanavis McGhee. Senior noseguard Tom Reinhardt held his own against the Sooners until late in the game.

With a 7-2 record, however, Colorado is definitely in the minor bowl hunt, and beating Nebraska would make McCartney the only Big Eight coach besides Barry Switzer to defeat Nebraska twice.

Strengths: Bieniemy is outstanding. So is punter Keith English, who's a cinch All-American. It'll be an upset if one of their defensive ends, Williams and McGhee, doesn't make all-conference.

Weaknesses: The Buff secondary has been suspect all year.

Statistically Speaking: English has averaged 49.9 yards a punt in Boulder, but "only" 45.5 yards per kick on the road. ■

The Report Card

NU	POS.	CU
A	QB	B+
A-	RB	B+
A-	OL	A-
B+	E	B
B+	DL	B+
A	LB	B
B+	DB	C+
B+	K	A-

Nebraska vs. Colorado

When: 1:30 p.m. (Central), Saturday, Nov. 12.

Where: Memorial Stadium, Lincoln, Neb.

Media Coverage: Husker Football Network.

Buffalo Facts: Coach — Bill McCartney (Missouri, 1962) is 34-42-1 as a head coach in seven years, all at Colorado. School Colors — Silver, Gold and Black. Nickname — Buffaloes. Enrollment — 23,000. Conference — Big Eight. Basic Offense — I-bone. Basic Defense — 5-2.

The Series: Nebraska leads, 33-12-1. Last year the Huskers rebounded from a disappointing loss to Oklahoma by beating CU, 24-7, with I-back Keith Jones sprinting for a career-high 248 yards. Two

years ago, however, the Buffs snapped an 18-game losing streak in the series by upsetting Nebraska, 20-10. The Huskers were ranked No. 3 in the nation going into that game, but were caught flat-footed on a 52-yard halfback pass and 39-yard reverse, both for touchdowns. The key was CU's defense, which limited Nebraska to only 123 yards rushing. Prior to 1984 Tom Osborne teams regularly trounced Colorado, but since then it has been a low-scoring matchup. Neither team has tallied more than three touchdowns in a game in the past four meetings, and Colorado is the only Big Eight school besides OU to hold NU under 30 points each of the past four years. Tom Osborne is 14-1 against Colorado.

COACH'S EVALUATION

Tom Osborne

Bufs Promise a Battle

"We were pleased with our performance on offense. I really felt this would be a tough game because Iowa State has been playing very well the last three or four weeks. The thing that I kept thinking about was their Colorado game when they played very well. They were very much in that game. I was pretty surprised how well we moved the ball against Iowa State, especially because this was one of the worst days we've played on, at least as far as weather. I know it was pretty difficult two years ago against Kansas State because of snow and cold, but this was probably as bad if not worse.

"I think Iowa State played hard. I hope they didn't get too banged up.

"They had a lot of guys go down. We didn't want to beat up on them."

Editor's note: Nebraska was booed by fans as it left the field at halftime because Osborne called two timeouts in the final 1:42, during an Iowa State possession, forcing a Cyclone punt and giving Gregg Barrios an opportunity to kick a 30-yard field goal, which gave the Cornhuskers a 31-0 lead, on the final play of the half.

"We called all those timeouts so we could get all the points that we could. You score all the points you can until you know that you've got the thing won.

"I heard the boos and I'm sorry.

"But we didn't run up the score. You have to take care of yourself first, and the first thing for us was to win the ball game.

"The main thing we've got to be concerned about now is getting ready for Colorado, and you've got to think Colorado has an excellent football team since they beat Missouri pretty soundly, and Missouri gave us a lot of problems. We just got 26 points on Missouri, but Colorado almost doubled that.

"Plus, Colorado played a very good game against Oklahoma, and they were driving late in the game. They had a chance to win. Offensively, they run a pretty effective option attack. Sal Aunese is a pretty experienced quarterback. Colorado moved the ball against

Oklahoma, both in the air and on the ground.

"Obviously, Eric Bieniemy is an outstanding halfback. He's got over 1,000 yards; he's very quick, too. Plus, he's a pretty tough back for his size. In fact, if you look up and down their lineup on offense, Colorado may have

as much team speed on offense in the skill positions as anyone we've faced this year.

"Colorado's got an outstanding record, and I'm sure they'll go to a bowl. They seem to really see us as their big rival, so we'll have our hands full." ■

CORNHUSKER 2-DEEP

OFFENSE

SE	19 Morgan Gregory	6-0	185	jr.
	22 Nate Turner	6-1	220	fr.
	62 Bob Sledge	6-2	270	sr.
LT	78 Tom Punt	6-8	270	so.
	65 Andy Keeler	6-3	265	sr.
	66 Jim Wanek	6-0	240	so.
LG	68 Jake Young	6-5	260	jr.
	59 Jeff Anderson	6-4	270	sr.
	76 John Nelson	6-1	260	sr.
C	69 Bill Bobbora	6-3	260	jr.
	70 Doug Glaser	6-7	295	jr.
	73 Steve Engstrom	6-3	285	so.
RG	43 Todd Millikan	6-3	245	sr.
	85 Monte Kratzenstein	6-4	225	jr.
	9 Steve Taylor	6-0	205	sr.
QB	14 Gerry Gdowski	6-1	195	jr.
	29 Bryan Carpenter	5-10	200	jr.
	18 Lance Lewis	6-0	200	fr.
FB	32 Ken Clark	5-9	200	jr.
	34 Tyreese Knox	5-10	215	sr.
	33 Dana Brinson	5-9	170	sr.
IB	21 Richard Bell	6-0	195	jr.
	16 Chris Drennan	5-9	180	jr.
	44 Gregg Barrios	5-8	180	so.

DEFENSE

OLB	89 Broderick Thomas	6-3	235	sr.
	93 Jon Marco	6-1	220	sr.
	84 Willie Griffin	6-3	275	sr.
LT	56 Joe Sims	6-4	285	so.
	96 Lawrence Pete	6-1	270	sr.
	74 Mike Murray	5-10	240	jr.
MG	91 Kent Wells	6-5	285	jr.
	95 Paul Brungardt	6-7	255	so.
	42 Jeff Mills	6-3	220	jr.
RT	88 Mike Croel	6-3	215	so.
	47 LeRoy Etienne	6-1	230	sr.
	55 Randall Jobman	6-3	230	jr.
OLB	49 Chris Caliendo	6-3	240	jr.
	40 Pat Tyrance	6-2	230	so.
	8 Lorenzo Hicks	6-0	195	sr.
SLB	38 Bruce Pickens	5-11	185	jr.
	10 Charles Fryar	5-10	175	sr.
	5 Tahaun Lewis	5-11	170	so.
WLB	17 Reggie Cooper	6-3	200	so.
	23 Mark Blazek	6-2	200	sr.
	4 Tim Jackson	6-0	190	sr.
LCB	23 Mark Blazek	6-2	200	sr.
	46 John Kroeker	5-11	175	sr.
	48 Scott Beckler	6-0	185	so.

BUFFALO 2-DEEP

OFFENSE

WR	84 Jeff Campbell	5-9	165	jr.
	16 Jo Jo Collins	6-0	180	sr.
	77 Bill Coleman	6-4	260	jr.
LT	64 Greg Gould	6-5	265	jr.
	62 Joe Garten	6-3	275	so.
	73 Scott Rasmussen	6-4	270	sr.
LG	61 Erik Norgard	6-1	270	sr.
	69 Jay Leeuwenburg	6-1	245	fr.
	63 Darrin Muilenburg	6-4	285	jr.
C	70 Dean Davis	6-5	305	sr.
	72 Mark Vander Poel	6-8	280	so.
	76 Ariel Solomon	6-6	260	so.
RG	87 John Perak	6-6	235	jr.
	39 Tom Stone	6-4	235	sr.
	8 Sal Aunese	5-11	195	jr.
QB	3 Marc Walters	6-3	180	so.
	33 Erich Kissick	6-0	220	jr.
	22 George Hemingway	6-0	215	so.
FB	9 Mike Pritchard	5-11	180	so.
	18 M.J. Nelson	5-9	155	jr.
	1 Eric Bieniemy	5-6	190	so.
LHB	2 J.J. Flannigan	5-11	185	jr.
	28 Ken Culbertson	6-4	175	jr.
	19 Pat Blottiaux	6-0	200	fr.

DEFENSE

LE	94 Alfred Williams	6-6	230	so.
	91 Lamarr Gray	6-0	225	so.
	83 Arthur Walker	6-4	255	jr.
LT	98 Brad Robinson	6-2	250	jr.
	97 Tom Reinhardt	6-3	255	sr.
	93 Joel Steed	6-3	270	fr.
MG	82 Cole Hayes	6-4	260	jr.
	99 Oklad Salavea	6-5	245	jr.
	96 Kanavis McGhee	6-5	230	so.
RT	50 Paul Rose	6-2	205	so.
	49 Don DeLuzio	6-2	230	sr.
	32 David Brown	6-2	220	so.
OLB	59 Michael Jones	6-0	225	jr.
	48 Terry Johnson	6-1	210	so.
	13 Keith Pontiflet	6-0	165	jr.
SLB	29 Deon Figures	6-1	170	fr.
	17 Tim James	6-2	200	so.
	41 Gregg Desmarais	6-2	205	so.
WLB	7 Bruce Young	5-10	200	jr.
	47 Scott Hanna	6-3	185	jr.
	12 Dave McCloughan	6-0	185	so.
LCB	15 David Gibbs	5-8	175	so.
	85 Keith English	6-3	215	sr.
	26 Mark Henry	6-2	180	fr.

Nebraska safety Tim Jackson said he'd never have another game like the one when Nebraska played Iowa State in 1987. "I'll never forget. It was my birthday, and I was feeling great. We were having a great game, Mark Blazek and I were playing pretty well, sharing the safety spot. There was just one problem, though. We were making the wrong call every time the Iowa State tight end went to the left side. We must have made that call wrong six times that day and we never did figure it out until Coach let us know we weren't in the right coverage."

Broderick Thomas said he isn't worried about his last game at Memorial Stadium, when the Cornhuskers play Colorado. "It'll be a game of new beginnings," Thomas said. "I'm going to try and make it special for the fans and for the team. I won't tell you what I'm going to do, but you'll notice."

Nebraska tight end Todd Millikan, who set a school record for touchdown receptions at his position with 14, is constantly banged up, bruised and battered, but keeps playing at a high level. "I don't know what injuries he has. He won't even tell me anymore," NU coach Tom Osborne said. "But he is playing great."

In fact, Nebraska has enjoyed phenomenal scoring success from its tight ends over the past few years. When Tom Banderas finished his three-year varsity career in 1987, he had 16 total catches to his credit, and 10 of those were touchdowns. Millikan now has 39 career, and 14 of those have reached the end zone. Since 1985 then, these two tight ends have accounted for 55 catches and 24 touchdowns.

An unofficial survey of the Nebraska seniors shows that probably UCLA quarterback Troy Aikman will win the Heisman Trophy this year. The consensus was that Oklahoma State running back Barry Sanders was probably too far behind at the start of this season, but should be a front runner next year.

As far as pure bulk is concerned, Nebraska has its largest defensive interior linemen ever with 6-foot-1, 270-pound noseguard Lawrence Pete; 6-5, 285-pound tackle Kent Wells and 6-3, 275-pound tackle Willie Griffin. "That group is a hard one to move and



Coach Frank Solich

a harder one to resist," Nebraska defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said.

Former Cornhusker I-back stand-out Paul Miles is an assistant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln chancellor for student affairs. Miles, a Husker letter-winner from 1983-85, is closing in on earning his master's degree in administration.

Tim Johnk, a walk-on fullback from Schuyler, Neb., may be the next in line at the fullback position. He made the travel roster to Iowa State because of the injury to backup Brian Harcelroad. Johnk, who is redshirting this year, has been a pleasant surprise at fullback and certainly figures into the Nebraska backfield future, running backs coach Frank Solich said.

Mark Antonietti, a senior reserve guard from Calumet City, Ill., once attended Notre Dame, but transferred here two years ago. He is from the same high school (Chicago Mt. Carmel) as split end Nate Turner and noseguard Mike Murray.

Starting senior tackle Bob Sledge

said there is no significance to his T-shirt that reads "Yo Beanpole," he wears to practice almost every day.

NU fullback Bryan Carpenter said he is still very anxious for his first 100-yard game. "It seems like everybody else has one, and I'll get mine yet," said Carpenter, who had 96 yards and a key 49-yard touchdown in Nebraska's victory over Missouri. Carpenter, a junior, is having a fine career against the Tigers. His best game of 1987 was a 90-yard effort in Columbia.

One theory about the Husker fans booing the team as it left the field at halftime of the Missouri game was that many fans booed other fans who let go of their balloons despite the fact Nebraska hadn't scored. "It's a big tradition to hold on to the balloon until we score and people just got tired of holding them I guess," one fan said.

Despite detractors and some let-downs, NU offensive line coach Milt Tenopir maintains that this year's offensive line is performing as well as any group he's had in his 14 years at Nebraska. "We don't have a Dean Steinkuhler, probably. We don't have somebody with the physical attributes of a Dave Rimington, but for a couple of years we didn't have the strength at all five spots. We can do more with this line than we did even six or seven years ago," he said.

Following Nebraska's 26-18 win over Missouri, the Cornhuskers dropped from No. 5 to No. 7 in the Associated Press poll although they remained No. 5 in the United Press International ranking. West Virginia, a big winner over Penn State, and Florida State, idle that week, moved ahead of the Huskers. Osborne had a pointed remark for *Omaha World Herald* sports editor Mike Kelley, who has the Nebraska state vote in the weekly Associated Press poll. "If somebody in Nebraska has a ballot, they ought to vote us fourth or fifth instead of eighth," Osborne said. "They ought to think it through a little bit. Don't vote us lower than everybody else in the country — not mentioning any names." Kelley voted Nebraska eighth after its victory over Missouri. Broderick Thomas said the ratings were getting ridiculous. "We'll have to prove what we can do and remove that doubt." ■

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If you don't know what a genealogist is, you'd better find one. And, it wouldn't hurt to have a fox, or two, if you plan to study the family football tree at Nebraska.

Basically, the two foxes are the most handy. Now before your mind plays dirty tricks on you, this is a reference, of course, to venerable Cornhusker Sports Information Director Don "Fat Fox" Bryant and his associate, Tom Simons, affably referred to as "Mini Fox."

A slightly more than cursory check into the "Family Ties" of Husker football reveals a surprising string of legacies in almost a century of the sport on the Lincoln campus. At least 42 different families — brothers, cousins and father-and-son combinations — have had multiple lettermen at Nebraska, and this isn't to suggest that all of these related combinations have been discovered.

They were successful, too. In this group, three wore numbers now retired, two have won the coveted Heisman Trophy, nine of them won 11 All-American awards, four were Academic All-Americans, 19 were Academic all-conference and 51 different players were selected all-conference during the Huskers' tour of the Missouri Valley, Big Six, Big Seven and the Big Eight conferences.

During the weekend of the Nebraska-Missouri game, a reunion was held for former Husker grid lettermen, some 400 strong.



Like father, like son: Johnny (above) and Terry Rodgers aren't the only family members to make a name for themselves at Nebraska.

"Probably, Ed Weir epitomizes the Nebraska All-American football player best," Bryant says. "He was a two-time All-American, a close friend of Notre Dame immortal Knute Rockne and played on the Cornhusker team that took two out of three games from Notre Dame when the Fighting Irish had the heralded Four Horsemen.

"To this day, whenever I see one of the 'Horsemen' — Don Miller, Harry Stuhldreher, Elmer Layden or Jim Crowley — they always ask about Ed Weir.

"Ed is the patriarch of the Nebraska All-Americans."

Weir, who is a member of the National Football Hall of Fame, lettered in 1923-24-25, making All-American as a tackle in his last two years. His brother Joe (1924-25-26) played the opposite tackle in Ed's last two years. Ed was later an ultra-successful track coach (1939-53) at his alma mater.

If Ed Weir was the patriarch of Cornhusker All-Americans, then Cletus Fischer is the patriarch of Nebraska's first family of football. Cletus, who coached under both Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne, is presently the director of the Husker Wheel and Beef Club, but his contribution to the program started long before his professional career.

Cletus lettered in 1945-46-47-48, a rather prodigious feat because a lot of talent poured back onto the campus in the form of World War II veterans. He was followed by brothers Kenny (1948-49), Rex (1955) and Pat (1958-59-60). Pat is the tiny tough-nut who plied his skills as a defensive back for 17 years in the NFL with the Cardinals and Redskins.

Cletus, Rex and Pat are each in the Nebraska Hall of Fame. And they have many other accomplishments to their credit.

Then, Cletus had three sons — Pat (1972-73), Tim (1976-77-78) and Dan (1980) — who won varsity football letters at Nebraska. Daughters Kerry (softball) and Kathleen (tennis) were varsity letter winners at UNL and, at last count, there are seven grandchildren to perpetuate the legacy at Lincoln.

Simons nominates three generations of the Porter family from Nebraska City to challenge the Fischer contribution to



Cornhusker cousins: Irving Fryar (above) and cousin Charles came from New Jersey to become Big Red stars.



Nebraska athletics. Grandfather Grove M. Porter (1914), a member of the Nebraska Hall of Fame, was the first, followed by his son Morton (1943).

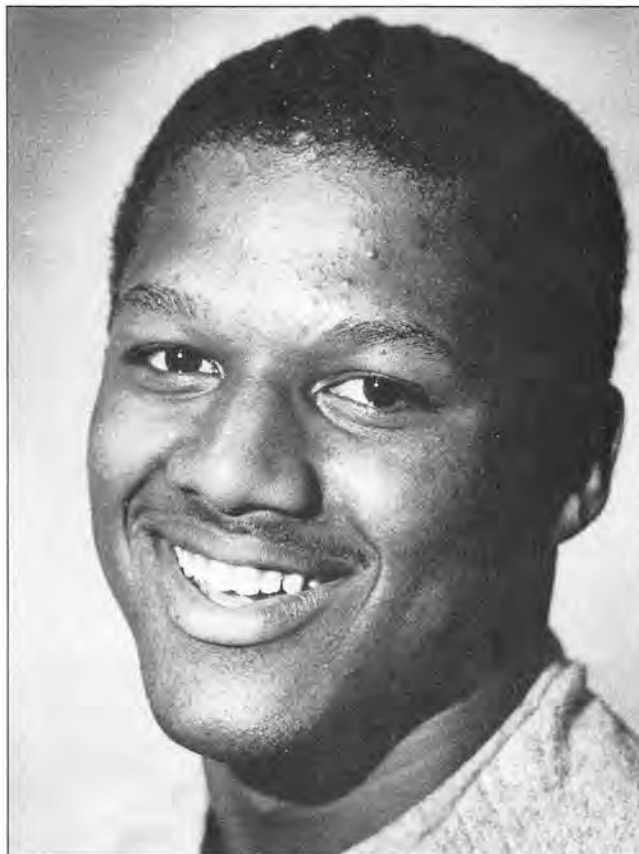
Morton's first son Scott (1983-84) lettered in football and another son, Budge, had his career shortened by injury. From the distaff side, Morton had a comely daughter, Jane, who served as a Husker cheerleader.

For prominence, All-American fullback Sam Francis (1934-35-36) was twice all-conference and played five years professionally with the Bears, Steelers and the now defunct Brooklyn Dodgers. Few remember, though, Sam

was a member of the American shotput team in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. His brother, Vike (1939-40), was the starting fullback on Nebraska's 1941 Rose Bowl team.

You don't have to go to Nebraskans to hear stories of the "toughest Husker of them all." The late and skillful Kansas sports information director, Don Pierce, said, "After anybody had to play against Tom Novak, they hurt for three days. Nobody was ever any tougher."

Novak (1946-47-48-49) started as a fullback and got his All-American badge as a center-linebacker in 1949. He was twice all-conference and as a sopho-



Big-time brothers: Toby (left) and Jimmy Williams have enjoyed NFL success since leaving Lincoln.

more in 1947, Notre Dame trimmed the Huskers, 31-0, in South Bend and so impressed were the Irish with the hard-nosed Nebraskan, they voted Novak a spot on their all-opponent team for that season. Hence, the nickname "Train Wreck" has stuck on Novak over the years.

"Tom was the toughest man I ever knew or saw," says Bryant. "I remember we went fishing up in the Minnesota woods one time and sent Tom out for some firewood. A short time later, without a shirt and scratched up and bleeding, here came Tom crashing through the woods with a small tree he had uprooted."

Shortly after his graduation, Novak's No. 60 was retired. Then came halfback and brother Ray (1951-52-53), who cheerfully lived and competed in the shadow of his fierce, older brother. Tom also had two sons, Tom and Terry, who were basketball lettermen for the Huskers.

In 1950, J. Gordon Roberts established the Novak Trophy, which is presented to the Husker senior who

"best exemplifies courage and determination despite all odds in the manner of Nebraska All-American center Tom Novak." Sportswriters and broadcasters who cover all Nebraska games vote on the award.

Another former Husker, who had his number retired until his son arrived on campus recently, was fleet Johnny Rodgers, the 1972 Heisman Trophy recipient. Rodgers lettered in 1970-71-72 as a wingback and had his number (20) taken temporarily out of retirement for his son Terry, who lettered as a true freshman last year and was decked this season with corrective knee surgery.

Of course, the elder Rodgers always will be remembered for the impetus he applied to the back-to-back national championship teams of 1970 and '71. The '71 team may have set an unprecedented record when it had 12 players named to the All-Big Eight Conference squad.

Everyone remembers the powerful, churning legs of No. 30, another retired Husker number. They belonged to 1983 Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier

(1981-82-83) of Camden, N.J., presently a member of the Houston Oilers. He was followed by his younger brother Guy, who lettered in 1983 and '85.

Irving Fryar (1981-82-83) was All-American as a senior and another part of the "New Jersey Connection" for the Huskers. Fryar, who hailed from Mt. Holly, N.J., has been a standout receiver for the Patriots for almost five years and was the very first player picked in the 1984 NFL draft.

His cousin, Charles Fryar, from Burlington, N.J., is a stellar cornerback in this year's edition of Husker football.

"The list goes on and on," Bryant claims. "There's no way we could track down the lineage on every player who lettered in football at Nebraska. There's no doubt, they come from hardy stock."

As you might expect, the family combinations wearing Husker uniforms stretch from New Jersey to California, and how could it miss the talent-rich state of Texas? Tackle Kelvin Clark (1976-77-78) of Odessa was a '78 all-conference and All-American and played seven years in the NFL with the Broncos and Saints. Just as he entered his senior year, along came brother David (1978-79-80), who bowed out his last season as an all-conference lineman, too.

There are more contemporary contributions, too. Freeman White (1963-64-65) of Detroit was an All-American in '65 and his son, Freeman, Jr., is a member of the 1988 Husker team as a defensive back.

Take 1988 senior offensive guard and co-captain Andy Keeler of Omaha, who is in his third lettering season. His older brother Mike (1981-83) was a permanent co-captain his senior year. While some coaches appoint co-captains on a game-by-game basis and others at the beginning or end of the season, there is no other record in 99 years of Nebraska football where brothers were named co-captains for the entire season.

From Holdrege comes the Strasburgers, Scott (1982-83-84) and Matt (1985). Scott was all-conference his senior year but twice was voted to the Academic All-American team. In 1984, Scott received the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame Post Graduate Scholarship and the following

season, the NCAA Post Graduate Scholarship. He is presently in medical school.

We'd be remiss to forget the Schwartzkopf brothers, Sam (1937-38-39) and Ed (1939-40-46). Sam played tackle for three years and is a former mayor of Lincoln. Ed, a former regent elect at Nebraska, played guard, making All-Big Six Conference in 1940. Ed also got an extension from the National Guard to play in the 1941 Rose Bowl but returned after World War II to letter again in 1946.

Add to the list the Pillen brothers of Monroe, Clete (1974-75-76) and Jim (1976-77-78). Clete was an ultra-tough linebacker, who won the Novak Trophy in 1976 and Jim, now a practicing veterinarian, was Academic All-American in 1978 and received the 1979 NCAA Post Graduate Scholarship.

This "All In The Family" routine could go on and on, like Jimmy (1979-80-81) and Toby Williams

(1980-81-82), both walkons from Washington, D.C. Jimmy was tapped All-American in 1981 and presently is an outside linebacker for the Lions. Toby plays defensive end for the Patriots.

You want another father-son combination with an All-American twist? Try Charles Brock (1936-37-38), who was an All-American center in 1937 and went on to a great career with the Green Bay Packers. His son, Dan (1974-75-76), came along 40 years later.

"The list includes doctors, teachers, successful businessmen, coaches or you name it," concludes Bryant. "But, they all have one common denominator, though...they lettered in football at Nebraska."

It's doubtful there is any team in the Big Eight, or for that matter, the nation — save the two-century-old Ivy League schools — that can boast such a proud parade of family football heritage. ■



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Jon Marco came to Nebraska with aspirations of being a defensive back, or maybe even a quarterback, a position he played at West High in Bellevue, Neb.

Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne says Marco, one of 50 or 60 walkons, was tried briefly at quarterback during the freshman team's preseason practice.

"He wasn't the worst. But we decided to move him to defense," says

Osborne.

That's how Marco, who weighed 190 pounds as a freshman, started playing defense, as a strong safety. The Cornhuskers still termed their strong safety "monster back" at the time.

Marco, who wore a quarterback's jersey number (4) on the freshman junior varsity team, made the transition to monster without complaint.

And given his considerable athletic ability, he quickly adapted to his new

position, even though he wasn't a starter, generally playing behind Kevin Hinton and Brad Buller, who were also Nebraska natives and walkons.

Hinton was from Curtis. Buller came from Henderson, along with high school teammate John Kroeker, one of 17 scholarship recruits in Nebraska's freshman class for 1984.

Marco smiles when he recalls his freshman year as a Cornhusker.

That first week of practice, "it's weird," he says. "You see the senior class (on the varsity) when you're a freshman, and there aren't very many. Your class has about 80 coming in. So you kind of look around and you wonder who's going to make it and who isn't."

"By the time you get to be a senior, things have really thinned out."

Many of the faces in Marco's freshman team picture can't be found in the team photograph of the 1988 Cornhuskers.

The names Hinton and Buller are no longer on the depth chart, for example. Neither is Shane Kuchta, a walk-on linebacker from Hartington, Neb.

Marco and Kuchta quickly became friends as freshmen and have remained so, even after Kuchta gave up football a couple of seasons ago. "Shane made it to the Sugar Bowl," Marco says.

"We still stay in touch."

Only seven starters for that freshman team's final game in 1984, a 41-0 victory over the William Jewell College junior varsity, are still playing for Nebraska, and only three of them are starters: cornerback Lorenzo Hicks, noseguard Lawrence Pete, and offensive guard Andy Keeler.

All were scholarship recruits.

The others are center Jeff Ander-

Like many college students, Jon Marco has changed; in his case, from a freshman QB to a senior linebacker.



son, who's regarded as a sixth starter in the offensive interior; wingback Jamie Worden; safety Wendell Wooten and cornerback John Custard.

Anderson and Custard walked on.

Like Marco, who subsequently was moved from monster back to defensive end (now outside linebacker), Hicks, Worden and Wooten have changed positions since their freshman year. Worden began his Cornhusker career as a cornerback. Wooten and Hicks started on offense, at quarterback and wingback, respectively.

A check of the final statistics for that freshman team, which finished with a 4-1 record, shows the top three pass receivers were Hicks, Willie Griffin, and Kroeker, none of whom have caught a pass in this, their senior season.

Griffin, a starting defensive tackle, was a tight end as a freshman. Kroeker, also a punter then, was a split end.

In fact, only three other players who caught passes besides Hicks for that freshman team are still playing: Dana Brinson, Ray Coleman and Corey Grobe.

None of the top three freshman-team rushers in 1984 are playing now, though the No. 2 ball carrier, Keith Jones, completed his eligibility without spending a redshirt season.

All-American defensive tackle Neil Smith and strong safety Brian Washington, both starters in the National Football League now, also were members of Marco's freshman class who didn't spend redshirt seasons.

Because of injuries, Jones played with the varsity as a freshman and was used in only two freshman games, rushing for 240 yards and four touchdowns.

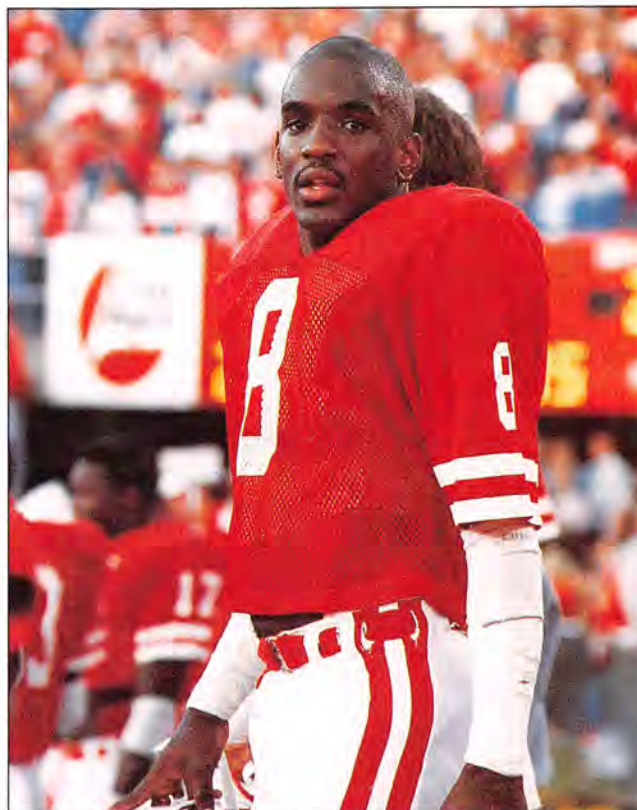
Wheeler, a walkon from Urbandale, Iowa, was the mainstay at I-back for the 1984 freshman team, gaining 367 yards and scoring three touchdowns.

Fullback Don Lilly, a walkon and Marco's teammate at Bellevue West, was third on the freshman team in rushing.

Wooten, the fourth rusher with 167 yards and a team-high six touchdowns, was probably the 1984 freshman team's biggest offensive threat, particularly after wingback Dana Brinson was sidelined after two games.

Brinson was granted an injury hardship redshirt that fall, as were Tyreese

Lorenzo Hicks finds it hard to believe his Husker career is almost over.



Knox, Todd Millikan, a linebacker at the time, and Randall Jobman.

Wooten came to Nebraska from West Texas City, Tex. One newspaper writer described him as the next Turner Gill, a "sleeper" from La Marque High School. He was recruited by several major programs, including Oklahoma State, Texas and Texas A&M.

Texas and Texas A&M saw Wooten as a defensive back or wide receiver. Nebraska and Oklahoma State, in particular, offered him a scholarship and the promise that he'd be given an opportunity to play quarterback.

Oklahoma State told him he could step right in and play as a freshman.

In contrast, Nebraska "put everything on the line," Wooten said later.

That honesty won him over.

Wooten was Nebraska's only scholarship recruit at quarterback in 1984, and he logged most of the playing time. Jim Toner and John Dostal were backups.

Wooten, who seriously considered trading in his football helmet for a baseball bat and glove during his sophomore year, remained at quarterback until spring practice in 1987.

That's when he moved to safety.

The main reason Wooten never got any higher on the depth chart than he did at quarterback was the arrival of Steve Taylor.

Wooten redshirted during Taylor's

freshman year, in 1985.

Taylor, who came from Lincoln High in San Diego, was among the most prominent in a recruiting class considered by some, at the time, to be the best in Cornhusker history. The class included Broderick Thomas and LeRoy Etienne who, like Taylor, didn't redshirt and saw varsity action as freshmen.

All three have lived up to expectations that came with their signing of letters-of-intent.

Taylor, Thomas and Etienne all will be remembered among the best ever to play their positions at Nebraska.

Thomas has been the most high-profile member of this year's senior class from the day he stepped on campus, and really, before that even. After making an oral commitment to Nebraska, Thomas told a reporter: "I'm loading my guns to start next year as a freshman."

"Every school recruiting me told me Nebraska would redshirt me," Thomas said. "But as quick as I can learn the game plan, I can play. I hope to be in the kind of shape to prove that."

Thomas and Sean Ridley from Central High in Omaha were together at the top of Nebraska's recruiting list of defensive ends. At the time, many Cornhusker fans preferred Ridley, because he was homegrown.

But it didn't take long for them to

warm up to Thomas, who's had an outstanding college career.

Ridley, who announced he was going to Iowa the same day Thomas committed to Nebraska, is no longer playing.

Thomas said his decision to become a Cornhusker was influenced by tradition.

"I wanted to play at a school where they win all those Lombardis, Outlands and Heismans," Nebraska's All-American outside linebacker told the reporter.

"That's all I want."

Well, not exactly. Thomas had hoped, of course, to win a Big Eight championship or two.

The Cornhuskers shared the conference title in 1984, the year before Thomas arrived, when Marco was a

freshman.

Marco watched as the 1984 seniors received their championship rings.

"I got to see them get fitted and everything," he says.

"But I didn't get one."

A Big Eight Championship ring would make Marco's Cornhusker football career complete. "Right now, that's the biggest thing the seniors want," he says. "To get that ring."

Thirty-one players are completing careers at Nebraska. Besides Marco, 16 others walked on. Five of those walkons are considered starters: cornerback Charles Fryar; Mark Blazek, a captain who backs up both safeties; offensive guard John Nelson; offensive tackle Bob Sledge and Anderson, who's stepped in and started at center when Jake Young

couldn't.

Fryar walked on in 1984 but redshirted and didn't play on the freshman JV team until 1985.

Nelson backed up scholarship recruit Andy Keeler at right offensive guard on the 1984 freshman team.

Sledge didn't play at all on that team, mainly because he was a non-letterman reserve as a guard for the University of South Dakota in 1984. He transferred to Nebraska at the semester break and redshirted in 1985.

This year's senior class has two other transfers, safety Tim Jackson and offensive guard Mark Antonietti.

Jackson was a freshman redshirt at Kansas State in 1984. He lettered for the Wildcats in 1985, then transferred to Coffeyville (Kan.) Junior College before coming to Nebraska in 1987.

Antonietti began his college football career at Notre Dame, transferring to Nebraska after his sophomore year.

The opportunity for walkons like Marco was probably greater than usual in 1984. The Cornhuskers' list of scholarship freshman was small — 17.

An unusually high percentage of those 17 stuck it out, however. Only three of the scholarship freshmen in 1984 won't complete their eligibility and one of those three, Steve Stanard, is still actively involved in the program.

Stanard, who started at defensive end on the 1984 freshman team, is now coaching the Cornhusker freshmen after an injury ended his playing career.

Jason Gamble, a wide receiver from Santa Barbara, Calif., and Mark Mendel, a lineman from Plymouth, Minn., are the only scholarship freshmen in 1984 whose careers ended before they had used up their four seasons of eligibility.

If the members of the 1984 freshman team had conducted a least-likely-to-succeed vote, Blazek might have won.

"I think Mark's been the most surprising," Marco says with undisguised respect. "He's done an incredible job, playing, academics, just representing the program."

Blazek, the only walkon chosen as a captain, is from Valparaiso, Neb., and attended Raymond Central High. He received a scholarship at the end of spring practice in 1986, after missing the

The Class of 1988

Player	Position	Hometown
Jeff Anderson	Center	Norfolk, Neb.
Mark Antonietti	Offensive guard	Calumet City, Ill.
Mark Blazek	Safety	Valparaiso, Neb.
Dana Brinson	Wingback	Valdosta, Ga.
Kurt Broer	Outside linebacker	Lincoln, Neb.
Peter Buchanan	Linebacker	Quebec, Ontario, Canada
Ray Coleman	I-back	Houston, Tex.
John Custard	Cornerback	Bellevue, Neb.
LeRoy Etienne	Linebacker	New Iberia, La.
Charles Fryar	Cornerback	Burlington, N.J.
Willie Griffin	Defensive tackle	Monrovia, Calif.
Corey Grobe	Tight end	Oakland, Iowa
Lorenzo Hicks	Cornerback	Kansas City, Mo.
Tim Jackson	Safety	Dallas, Tex.
Andy Keeler	Offensive guard	Omaha, Neb.
Barry Kitrell	Fullback	Ashland, Neb.
Tyreese Knox	I-back	Daly City, Calif.
John Kroeker	Punter	Henderson, Neb.
Jon Marco	Outside linebacker	Bellevue, Neb.
Brian Miller	Linebacker	Hardy, Neb.
Todd Millikan	Tight end	Shenandoah, Iowa
John Nelson	Offensive guard	Minden, Neb.
Lawrence Pete	Middle guard	Wichita, Kan.
Bill Settles	Cornerback	Lincoln, Neb.
Kurt Skradis	Defensive tackle	Omaha, Neb.
Bob Sledge	Offensive tackle	Omaha, Neb.
Steve Taylor	Quarterback	Fresno, Calif.
Broderick Thomas	Outside linebacker	Houston, Tex.
Cartier Walker	Cornerback	Atlantic City, N.J.
Wendell Wooten	Safety	West Texas City, Tex.
Jamie Worden	Wingback	Scottsbluff, Neb.

fall to go through basic training for the Army National Guard.

Success hasn't come easily for Blazek, who suffered a sprained ankle in the 1984 freshman team's 38-9, opening-game victory over Ellsworth Junior College and was sidelined for three weeks.

His freshman season was undistinguished.

Blazek wasn't even on the freshman team's two-deeps prior to the final game against William Jewell.

The top two safeties that afternoon were Franklin Barber and Tom Nelson.

Blazek's consistency and discipline have served him well, both in the National Guard and on the football field. He's also an excellent student, earning Academic All-American recognition last season.

As Marco suggests, Blazek has represented Nebraska well. He's the embodiment of the best in college football, in fact.

Blazek was the fifth walkon in the last 10 seasons to be chosen a Cornhusker captain. The others, all defensive players, were Doug Welniak in 1987, Mike Tranmer in 1983, Jimmy Williams in 1981 and Derrie Nelson in 1980. Even though Nebraska screens its walkons much more carefully now, there's still plenty of opportunity.

Marco is convinced of that.

"Anybody with decent ability has a chance, if you just do everything they tell you and have a good attitude," he says. "It's just up to you."

Marco arrived in the fall of 1984, eager to prove himself and become a Cornhusker football player. Early on, "it was day-to-day, wondering if you were going to get cut," he says.

"I always tried to do my best. I always gave my best effort. And I was determined to make it. Through the years, that attitude has paid off."

Being a walkon may have worked to his advantage, according to Marco. He never took anything for granted and accepted the fact he would have to work hard to survive, much less succeed.

"If you did something wrong, especially as a walkon, you dropped on the depth chart real quick," he says. "So it made me realize how important it is to do things right here."

Marco had modest aspirations at first.

But as time passed, "my expectations got higher." He was patient, and when his break came, he capitalized.

Marco made his own break by going to Dan Young, the freshman coach at the time, and agreeing to switch from monster back to defensive end.

"We had like six monsters and were kind of thin at defensive end," says Marco, who's some 30 pounds heavier now (220) than when he was a freshman.

"Coach Young told us we could talk to him (about switching) if we wanted."

During spring practice his freshman year, Marco became a defensive end. He says he didn't know how to interpret the coaches' ready acceptance of his offer to change positions. "It was like, 'Wow, I'm either going downhill or uphill real quick,'" he says.

He played there with the third team as a redshirt the next fall, going against first-team players like Tom Banderas.

"That was interesting," Marco says, smiling. "That'll make you or break you. If you can't hang in there with those guys, you're not going to be around here for very long."

Marco hung in there and by his third season at Nebraska, he had earned a starting position on the kickoff team.

"I had a chance to have some fun and contribute to the team. That really gave me inspiration," he says.

As if there was ever any doubt to the contrary, lettering on the kickoff team also convinced him that "I wanted to play here, bad," Marco says.

Time has passed quickly for Marco and many of his fellow seniors.

Hicks, perhaps, sums it up best.

"You look back — for some reason, you don't notice the records, I guess because you're so used to winning at Nebraska you don't know how many wins you've had — and it's over," he says. "It seems like it's gone fast."

Hicks becomes pensive for a moment.

"You never know what the future holds, what you'll be doing at this same time next year," he says.

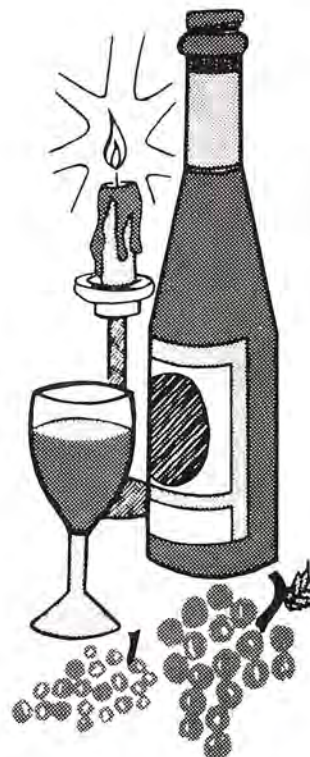
He couldn't have known he'd finish his Cornhusker career as a cornerback when he was a freshman, trying to make his mark as a split end or wingback.

Marco was a monster back.

And Wooten was a quarterback.

Faded pictures. . . ■

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Off to the Races

HEISMAN AND ALL-STAR BALLOTING IS AROUND THE CORNER, AND THOSE L.A. QUARTERBACKS HAVE THE INSIDE TRACK.

The Heisman Trophy may be on the line when UCLA and Southern Cal square off Nov. 19, in a shootout that could also shape the 1988 national championship race.

It appears UCLA quarterback Troy Aikman and Southern Cal quarterback Rodney Peete are the clear favorites for the annual award, symbolic of America's best collegiate football player.

Along with Aikman and Peete, only two others seem to have even a chance at the Heisman. That would be Oklahoma State running back Barry Sanders and Miami quarterback Steve Walsh.

After a few calls to key sports writers around the nation, it seems Aikman is the early favorite.

"I don't think there is any question Aikman has a substantial lead," said Herschel Nissenson, college football editor for the Associated Press.

Nissenson probably sees more big-time college games in person than any writer in the country. However, he has not seen Sanders.

"A lot of the running backs have fallen by the wayside, and that has helped Sanders," Nissenson said. "His best chance was to have a sensational game against Oklahoma. If a running back has a great game against Oklahoma, then he's a viable candidate."

No one else in the Big Eight Conference is perceived to be in the Heisman race. Broderick Thomas, Nebraska outside linebacker, and Anthony Phillips, Oklahoma offensive guard, are both among the 12 semifinalists for the Lombardi Trophy. Phillips could also be in the running for the Outland (given to the top tackle, guard or center in the country). Phillips, however, will first have to make the Football Writers Association of America first-team All-American squad.

The Dick Butkus Award, given to the



Broderick Thomas has remained a strong favorite for post-season glory.

nation's top linebacker, has included Thomas among its finalists.

Orville Henry of the *Arkansas Gazette*, past president of the Football Writers, said he was "shocked" to learn Sanders was not given a chance in the Heisman race according to a poll conducted by a paper from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

"They said he was only a regional candidate," Henry said. "They referred

to it as regional bias. I guess that's the way of life. Maybe if Sanders were not at OSU he'd have a better chance."

Nissenson made the same prediction.

"At Oklahoma or Nebraska, he could win the Heisman," Nissenson said. "If he is at OU right now, he is an immediate candidate. That's a shame, but nobody has seen him on TV. No one's heard about him."

Bill Millsaps, sports editor of the *Richmond-Times Dispatch*, said he wants to "see who wins" when Aikman and Peete meet before deciding his Heisman vote. He did not mention Sanders as a candidate.

"I think it's just the two LA quarterbacks," he said. "I think it's interesting that they are in the same town."

Millsaps is one who dislikes the Heisman tradition of picking an offensive back. He may reserve one of his three picks (Heisman voters must include three names on their ballot) for a defender.

"I might vote for that Alabama linebacker, Derrick Thomas," Millsaps said. "I saw him play on TV against Penn State. He is a stud. I really like him. You can make a case that he is the best player in the country."

Linemen are out of luck when it comes to the Heisman, which is almost criminal, said Millsaps.

"A few years ago I helped launch a campaign for Bill Fralic, the Pitt offensive lineman," he said. "I thought he was the best player. I think my campaign got him about two votes."

Harry King, sports editor for AP's bureau in Little Rock, thinks Walsh is better than Aikman or Peete.

"Not winning the Notre Dame game hurt Walsh, but I still like him," King said. "It's kind of a shame, but having a game on TV when you are anything but spectacular really hurts you in the



Rodney Peete of USC is about the only player who can stop Troy Aikman's Heisman march.

Heisman race.

"That's also what's bad about the kid at Oklahoma State. He may be the best of all of them, but he hasn't had any TV exposure. I haven't been able to see anything of him, not even many highlights.

"The hoopla of the West Coast helps Aikman and Peete, too. I know that Sanders might be more spectacular than either of them. I hope I'm wrong, but I don't see anyone beating either of the two LA quarterbacks, but I don't think that means they are better than Walsh or Sanders."

It seems that Sanders' 300-yard games against Tulsa and Kansas State went almost unnoticed.

"People around the country are not interested in what someone does against Tulsa," said Henry. "It doesn't help you one bit. Plus, it happened in a night game. That stuff doesn't even make the East Coast papers."

It has been suggested that writers shouldn't be allowed to choose the Heisman Trophy winner. There may be too many voters who do not see enough of the top contenders to make an accurate decision. Would it be better to let National Football League scouts pick the Heisman winner?

"I don't think that's a good idea," Henry said. "Scouts make their predictions and drafts on size and speed. A guy who was a dog in college might go on to become a good pro. I think they might pick the top athlete, but not the best college player."

Sanders, who was not a starter last

year, suffers in the Heisman race because his school was not able to mount a national campaign in preseason. Aikman, Peete and Walsh got a jump on him.

"You win the Heisman a year ahead," said Henry. "Sometimes it takes more time than even one year."

J.T. King, former Texas Tech coach, made the same comment. King, now a Cotton Bowl scout, said Notre Dame's Tim Brown may have had the Heisman locked away before the first game last year.

"I think the preseason campaign won it for Brown," King said. "I don't think he was the best player, and that's too bad."

As far as All-American teams, Sanders, Thomas and Phillips are all locks. OSU split end Hart Lee Dykes also looks like a solid bet for consensus All-American honors.

Nebraska's Steve Taylor and O-State's Mike Gundy might have a hard time making All-American teams at quarterback because of Aikman and Peete. West Virginia sophomore Major Harris, another outstanding quarterback, could also be in the All-American picture.

Nebraska's Jake Young is among the top candidates for post-season honors at center. Others would be linebacker LeRoy Etienne and free safety Tim Jackson.

The top candidates for post-season honors at Oklahoma would have to be Phillips and defensive tackle Scott Evans. ■



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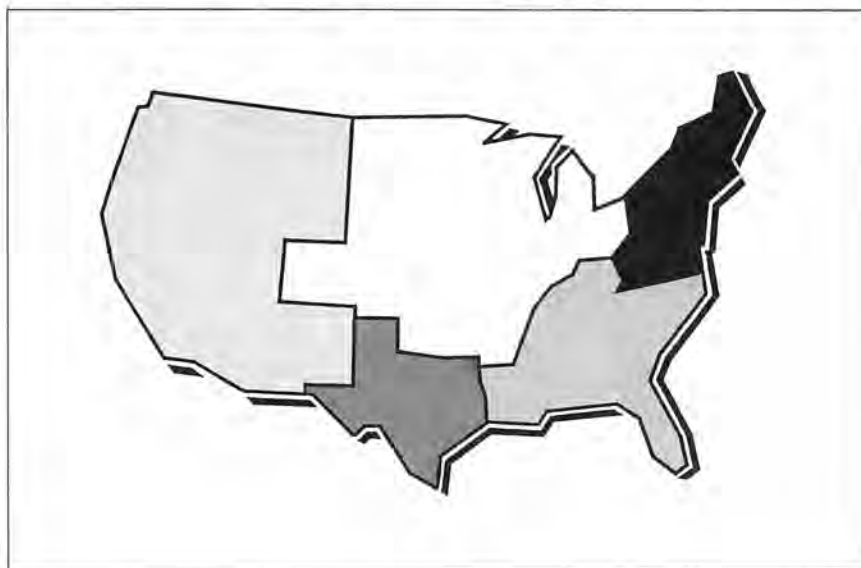
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Offensive Linemen

They just keep getting bigger year after year. In the 1960s, a 240-pounder was considered huge. At 260 pounds, they were monsters in the '70s. These days, you've got to be around 280 pounds before a college thinks you're a truly "big" offensive lineman. That's where we're looking this week: the offensive line.

Some of these hot prospects are already that large, while others have the potential to grow into such a frame. Either way, all have the potential to be college stars, and there's no quicker way to have star running backs than to equip them with star blockers to make that option ground game purr. These guys can do it.



WEST

The most well-rounded, and possibly the best, offensive lineman coming out of high school this year is Bob Whitfield (6-7, 270, 5.0) of Wilmington, Calif. He's an extremely intelligent prospect (3.6 GPA), who wants to study medicine. He will choose a school with solid academic credentials. Schools of note include UCLA, Stanford, Syracuse, Notre Dame, Michigan, California and Texas.

If you want a lineman who will simply run over people, Eric Epock (6-3, 300, 5.1) of Peoria, Ariz., is your man. He's a skilled run-blocker who is virtually impossible to get around. Schools of note include Arizona, USC, Nebraska and UCLA.

Terry McDaniels (6-5, 245, 4.9) of Pasadena, Calif., is another super prospect in the Golden State. His tremendous speed, excellent pass blocking and great use of hands make him a can't-miss player.

A school with a good weight room is what attracts Tom Gallagher (6-5, 240, 5.0) of Puyallup, Wash., who can play on either side of the ball. He bench presses close to 400 pounds. Schools of note include Washington, USC, Oregon, Notre Dame and UCLA.

Carson (Calif.) High School coach Gene Vollnogle says Morris Unutoa (6-3, 245, 4.8) will be the top offensive

lineman the school has ever produced. His quickness allows him to trap or pass block well. He can also play center. Schools of note include Arizona, USC and Alabama.

In order to shave time off his 5.3 in the 40-yard dash, Laverne, Calif., lineman Len Gorecki (6-3, 265) jumps rope frequently. His pass blocking skills are fantastic. Schools of note include USC, Notre Dame, Colorado and Nebraska.

Kevin Kelly (6-3, 260, 5.1) of Santa Monica, Calif., and Andy Gonzales (6-4, 245) of Banning High School will attract college recruiters as will Mike Hinz (6-3, 255, 4.8) of Riverside, Calif., who could end up playing noseguard in college. Also, perhaps the best line prospect in California may be one of the finest students. Rick Pallow (6-3, 236, 5.2) of Santa Ana carries a 4.0 GPA.

SOUTHWEST

When you are the top-rated offensive tackle in Texas, you'll probably fit in well anywhere. Earl Dotson (6-5, 280, 5.2) of Beaumont fits that mold. He can do so many things so well. Schools of note include USC, SMU and Texas A&M.

Maybe the most talked about offensive line prospect in Texas is James Cargill (6-7, 285, 5.1) of Plainview. One

recruiter says you don't find big men who can move as well as Cargill does. Schools of note include Oklahoma, Nebraska, Texas, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State.

If super run-blockers are your need, Joe Wheeler (6-7, 310, 5.4) of Aldine may really help your cause. Getting in his way can be very dangerous. Schools of note include Oklahoma, Nebraska, Oklahoma State, Texas and Texas A&M. Wheeler is not the only top offensive line prospect from Aldine. John Karkoska (6-3, 260, 4.9) will also make some school very happy. He can bench press over 400 pounds and squat 600 and wants to pursue a degree in psychology.

Not far away in Humble is Shannon Nevodonsky (6-3, 260, 5.1), a tough player who dominates in the middle. He plays center in high school but has the aggressiveness to be a college noseguard. Schools of note include Oklahoma, UCLA, LSU, Georgia and Penn State.

If growing up as a fan has anything to do with it, Texas University will land Todd Yeaman (6-4, 275, 4.9), an offensive guard from Ft. Worth. He can play on either side of the ball, and has done so quite frequently in high school. Other schools of note include Nebraska, UCLA, Texas A&M and Notre Dame.

An excellent student who recruiters

will be looking at is Craig Johnston of Crosby. At 6-foot-4 and 310 pounds, it's hard to miss him. He is an excellent run blocker who flattens opposing linemen in his way. Johnston carries an impressive 4.0 grade average.

THE MIDLANDS

On the coast of Lake Erie in Cleveland resides a young man many recruiting experts regard as the top center prospect in the country. Rod Smith (6-4, 290, 5.1) is projected not only to star in college but also end up in the National Football League. Schools of note include UCLA, Michigan, Michigan State and Notre Dame.

Look out for Mike Bedosky (6-5, 270, 5.1) of Jefferson City, Mo., who is a star wrestler expected to keep on growing. His high school does not allow players to talk to colleges during the season. Schools of note include Missouri, Arkansas and Iowa.

He may only be 6-5 and 230, but Lance Larsen of Moorehead, Minn., can keep defenders in check all day and is an excellent pass blocker at guard. Schools of note include Nebraska and Minnesota.

Scott Gaskins (6-4, 260, 5.0) of Dayton, Ohio, comes from the same school as NFL star Irv Eatman. Gaskins' coach, Pat Masters, says he may even be better than Eatman. Schools of note include Ohio State, Michigan, Michigan State, Tennessee and UCLA.

Out of Jenks, Okla., comes the state's top line prospect in Ryan Patterson (6-3, 240, 4.9) who can play either offensive or defensive tackle. If he lives up to his billing, Patterson may add his name to the all-star list of college linemen who have come out of this high school program. Schools of note include Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Notre Dame, USC and UCLA.

If the name David Noonan sounds familiar, it should. He is ex-Nebraska All-American Danny Noonan's little brother. At 6-4 and 245, David is a "little" center that many schools would love to have. This Lincoln Northeast star will almost certainly follow in Danny's footsteps. Schools of note include Nebraska, Air Force, Army, Ohio State, Iowa and Iowa State.

Eric Jones (6-3, 255, 5.0) of Portage, Ind., is considered by many to be one of the best line prospects from the Hoosier state. His run and pass blocking are both superb. Schools of note include Purdue, Notre Dame, UCLA and USC.

SOUTHEAST

He wears a size 56 shoulder pad. He bench presses 390 pounds. He's 6-4 and 310, and runs the 40-yard dash in 5.3 seconds. He's Lee Brown and considered to be one of the top offensive linemen in this area. This force, from Louisville, Miss., moves everything he blocks. Schools of note include Alabama, Mississippi State, Nebraska, Georgia, Clemson and Notre Dame.

Florida's best in the way of big men is Rudy Barber (6-4, 275, 4.9) of Miami. He bench presses over 400 pounds, and it will be a surprise if he leaves the state.

In Greenwood, S.C., resides Ernest Dye (6-5, 290). College recruiters think so highly of him, they've been talking to him since the 10th grade. He could very well end up at South Carolina because his brother Marty is a redshirt freshman there.

Mark Dixon (6-4, 265, 4.8) of Ragsdale, N.C., is considered by many to be one of the top offensive linemen in the country. He is super quick off the ball and sets up well for the pass. He is also a standout basketball player. Schools of note include North Carolina, Florida State and Clemson.

Some feel that Steven Allen (6-6, 270, 4.9) of Orange Park, Fla., can play right away wherever he goes. This guy is multi-talented, also participating in basketball and track. Schools of note include UCLA, Clemson, Florida State, Georgia and Alabama.

When you're 6-3 by 255 pounds, run a 4.9 in the 40-yard dash, bench press over 400 pounds and score 1150 on the SAT, you've got a good chance to be in high demand. Lance Johnson of Charlotte, N.C., certainly is. This dedicated student and blocker has said he will attend Notre Dame.

Clearing the way for one of the South's best backs (Darrell Williams) is Alabama's top offensive line prospect, Roosevelt Patterson. He is so versatile

that this 6-4, 275-pound future All-American can play three positions on the offensive line, but will probably end up at tackle. Schools of note include Alabama, Auburn and Texas A&M.

EAST

Mark down the name Kharim Stray-born (6-4, 245, 4.8) of Virginia Beach, Va., who is a prospect that will make many recruiters happy. This "A" student is a tremendous weight lifter and can play either offense or defense. Schools of note include Duke, Virginia, Harvard, Stanford and North Carolina.

The state of New York has its best lineman in Shawn Bowman (6-3, 250, 5.0) of Jamestown. He can bench press 440 pounds and wants to study criminal justice, which might not bode well for future law breakers. Schools of note include Syracuse, West Virginia, USC, Miami and UCLA.

Lamont Liggett (6-5, 270, 5.0) of Ambridge, Pa., is the son of former Kansas City Chief Bob Liggett. His size and speed make him a can't-miss prospect. Schools of note include Pitt, Penn State, Notre Dame, UCLA and Ohio State.

Tom Prawdzik (6-4, 265, 5.1) of Lakeland, Pa., will definitely impress some recruiters. This tower of strength benches over 380 pounds and can play on both sides of the ball. Schools of note include Notre Dame, Ohio State, Syracuse and Penn State.

New Jersey may not have loads of superstar offensive linemen, but Scott Vaughn (6-5, 265, 5.0) of Phillipsburg makes up for that. His agility and quickness are outstanding. Schools of note include Clemson, Pitt and others.

Brooklyn Lafayette's Ed Ruiz (6-4, 290, 5.2) is one of the biggest prospects in New York. This class president will play on offense in college and there will be many lining up at his door to sign him.

Some school will be very fortunate to land Justin MacFarlan of Ridgewood, N.J., who experts say is one of the faster linemen off the ball they have ever seen. As a junior he was quick enough to register 18 sacks on defense. MacFarlan (6-6, 240, 4.9) is still growing. Schools of note include Boston College, North Carolina, Michigan and Duke. ■

*Q: When it comes to deciding which bowl bid to accept, how much input do you get from players, assistant coaches, fans, Bob Devaney and other people in the athletic department? **Sammy Tucker, Holdrege, Neb.***

A: There's quite a bit of input from different people. When a possible bowl bid is discussed, usually Bob Devaney and I will spend a good amount of time looking at the impact. The main concern, of course, is always to just win the Big Eight because the bowl bid will take care of itself. That's pretty easy. I don't think any of the players or coaches would vote against playing in the Orange Bowl.

But sometimes you'll have one of those winner-loser arrangements, and that takes a little extra thought. Yes, the players are consulted on their feelings about a particular bowl if it's not the Orange Bowl. From a team standpoint, I think the players generally want to go to a bowl where they can play the best competition and have the best chance of finishing the season ranked fairly high in the polls.

There are other things to take into account. You always consider whether or not you've been to that bowl in the last couple of years. I'm not sure anybody would want to go the same bowl two or three years in a row unless, of course, it was the Orange Bowl. A lot of our fans plan their bowl trip as their big winter vacation, and it would lose some of its appeal I guess if you went to the same place every year. So we take that into account, too.

*Q: There was a lot of talk last summer about players who got their colleges in trouble by asking for money when they were recruited, and it now looks like the NCAA will hit them with penalties. Is this a rare thing in college football as far as you see in recruiting? Or, do you hear about it fairly often when you are on the recruiting trail? **Charles Adams, Council Bluffs, Iowa***

A: I think it's rare. There are a lot of pressures in college football. Pressure on the coaches to win. Maybe a young man comes from a home where there's a poverty or low-income situation, and



he feels pressure financially. When those things combine, sometimes — and I still feel it doesn't happen that often — a young man or a coach will break down and not make a wise decision. I can understand why those things happen, but that doesn't mean I think that is excusable. Obviously, I don't.

*Q: Please settle a bet. I say the noseguard (like Danny Noonan in 1986 against OU) is most important in stopping the wishbone, but my friend thinks that linebackers (like Marc Munford in 1985) are more important. Which do you say? **Jack Carlson, Orange, Calif.***

A: You can make a pretty good case for both of those. I think the noseguard is probably going to have a bigger impact on stopping the fullback game, and that's where the wishbone starts. If the fullback can't make much yardage up the middle, then you've forced your opponent to concentrate more on the quarterback keeper and the pitchout.

Marc Munford, of course, did play very well against Oklahoma in 1986, and he did a good job on the perimeter of the wishbone. But you can also make a good case for the safeties being important in stopping the wishbone. Brett

Clark did a whale of a job in 1984 against Oklahoma when it came to run support.

What that means is that you've pretty much got to have a total defensive package. Plus, there are a lot of variations on the wishbone these days, and that could change your thinking. But if you're just looking at a basic wishbone offense, you'd probably find a consensus among coaches that stopping the fullback is awfully important.

*Q: Are there any particular positions on the team that will be particularly thin in a couple of years and that will be recruiting priorities this year? **Archie Fultz, Rapid City, S.D.***

A: Oh, that's hard to say. You always look hard for outstanding quarterbacks and running backs. I guess you could look at our sophomores and juniors and get a feel for who we'll be losing down the road. We have a lot of junior and sophomore linebackers, so it will be important to keep that position stocked to avoid a lack of numbers there in the future. Chris Caliendo is a junior this year, Jeff Mills is a junior, and so are Mark Hagge and Randall Jobman. But we've also got some pretty good sophomores playing right now. The key will be to make sure we've got good depth there after those sophomores and juniors are gone in two or three years.

We use all our receivers — tight end, wingback, split end — quite a bit, so it'll be important to look at people there. We'll lose some talented seniors at tight end and wing back this fall, but we've also got some talented people coming back there. It's just that we could be in a depth problem at those skill positions in a couple of years unless we bring in some people pretty quick.

And you've always got to watch for linemen. We'll lose some good defensive linemen this year, but we've also got some talented young players coming back. We went after defensive backs pretty hard last year, so that spot might not be as much of an urgency as it was.

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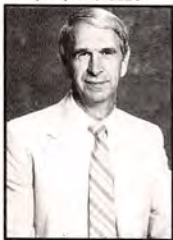
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